Work Progress Aids

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Foreword To Special Shawneetown Issue

The projects under which the City of Shawneetown is being removed from constant fear of destruction by floods are more difficult and more complex than any similar number of projects in the Illinois Works Progress Administration. Fourteen public agencies, local and state and federal, share responsibility for success or failure. Three hundred parcels of real estate are included. Four hundred families and forty merchants have to plan their futures in the new city.

The building of the new city and the clearing of the old site are simple compared with the problem of developing a procedure through which the responsibilities of the official agencies, each bound by laws and regulations may be met in full.

In this issue of WPAids the principal features of the Shawneetown Relocation projects are described, together with operation plans used on or suggested for use on the projects. Some of these are described because of their potential value to other projects. Progress to date is noted, with costs. A cost accounting system is maintained.

While this group of projects has a special importance - the desperate need of a community to save itself from being destroyed by the River - the results of operation of the projects indicate positively that the citizens who are the real Shawneetown are fully capable, with financial and management assistance, to produce their own services and buildings at costs within their ability to repay over a period of years and that, under adequate business auspices, we may predict for the New Shawneetown security against destruction by the River and a return to prosperity.

Administrator

Table of Contents, April, 1939

Foreword to Special Shawneetown Issue . . Pages	1
Financial Justification of the Project . . .	2
Thumbnail History of Old Shawneetown . . .	3 to 5
List of Agencies Contributing to Project . . .	6
Group Photograph of Officials of Agencies . . .	7 and 8
Location and Plat of New Shawneetown . . .	9 to 11
Subdivisions and Cost of Project Work . . .	12 to 15
Sewer Construction and Special Devices . . .	16 and 17
Sewage Treatment Plant, with Plan	18
Water Works Construction and Well	19
Buildings in Old and New Shawneetown	20 and 21
Public Buildings	22 to 32
General Features of Economy	22 and 23
Gallatin County Court House	23 to 25
Shawneetown City Building	25 and 26
Shawneetown Grade School House	26 and 27
Southern Illinois Historical Museum	27 and 28
Shawneetown Township High School Gymnasium . .	29
The Host House and the Craft House	30 to 32
Stores and Industrial Buildings	31
Contracts and Construction of Houses	31 to 34
The Nursery and the Family Camp	35
Yard and Shop Facilities	35 and 36
Handicraft Training and Objectives	37 to 40

E. R. Lord

This special issue of Work Progress Aids has been edited and largely written by the Assistant Administrator who has had personal charge of this project from its inception. Material has been secured from the project files, cost records and the complete photographic record of the work to date. Who — no name given

Subsequent issues of Work Progress Aids will be edited by the State Directors of Operations and of Professional and Service Projects, as in the past, using contributions of alert Supervisors, Superintendents, Foremen and Workers on our best conducted projects throughout the state. Send in your copy for next issue immediately. Produced (not printed) by the office of the Chief Clerk at Chicago.

FINANCIAL JUSTIFICATION OF THE PROJECT

Including total interest charges of $506,000 for a period of twenty years on all funds advanced by federal, state and private agencies for the execution of this project for the relocation of the entire city of Shawneetown, together with the repayment of all funds to be expended on the construction work, it will cost $156,000 more to move the city than it would to leave Shawneetown on its present site and to raise the levee five feet higher than the 1937 flood crest. This higher levee would require the moving and rebuilding of half of the present business section, as its toe would rest at about the center of Main Street. With a higher levee, there can be no assurance that the water will not break through the sand under the levee as sand boils are now formed and pumps run water continuously under much lower river stages.

When it is remembered that the federal government and the American Red Cross have, in the past fifty years, spent more than $600,000 for the construction of the present levee and for rescue and rehabilitation work at Shawneetown, it would appear that this project is a sound investment of federal and state funds.

Thumbnail Sketch of Historic Shawneetown

Shawneetown is the oldest English (out of Virginia) settlement of Illinois. It was established at the end of the eighteenth century, during the westward surge of population that followed the War of Independence. General Thomas Posey, fresh from that strife, brought his family and, after serving brilliantly as Governor of Indiana Territory and Senator, came back down the Vincennes-Shawneetown pike to die in peace in 1818. He rests in the old cemetery on the hill, not far from new town site. He was but one of a host of important men identified with old Shawneetown. In fact, the town has produced so many full fledged fighters that nearly every street in the new town bears the name and colors of a locally bred general. The few exceptions commemorate equally notable local citizens; Marshall Avenue, the first Illinois banker who made Shawneetown the financial capital of the Illinois country; McLean Road, the first representative, later senator, from the new state of Illinois, who also has a county named after him.

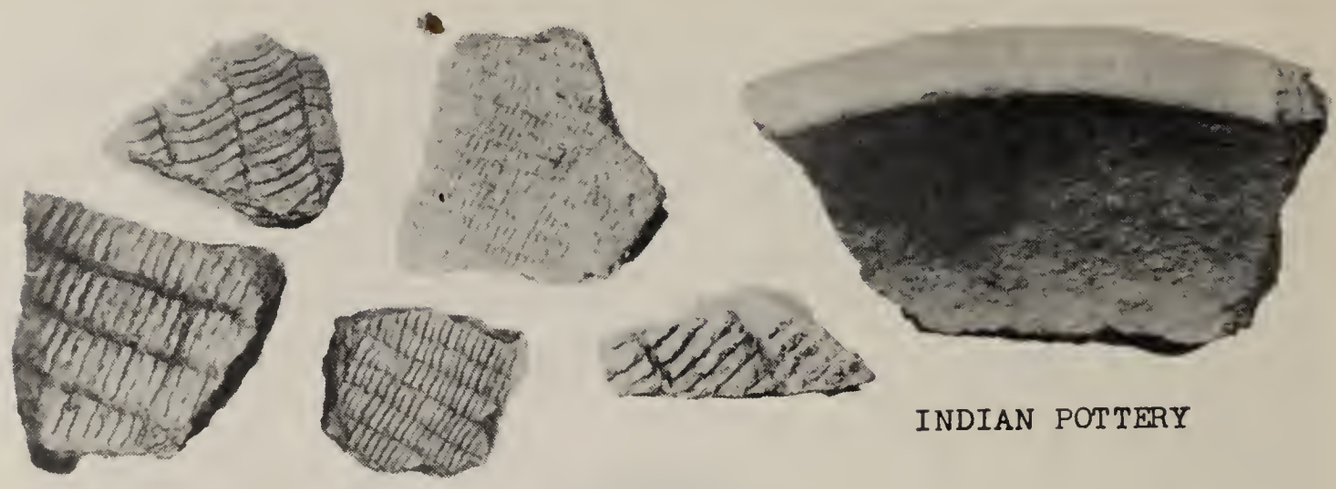
THOMAS POSEY

Still earlier Shawneetown was the capital of an Indian industrial empire. The Shawnees-peaceful, industrious, resourceful - carried on a commerce in salt, which they produced in great quantities nearby, and in whatever goods other nations brought to exchange for salt. Fragments of their tens of thousands of large evaporating kettles litter acres of ground in the vicinity. They had a long established village and burial mound in the present city limits and another village and cemetery on the hill by the salt wells. The French may have made salt here for a time before the Americans took possession of Gallatin County and the salt works near Shawneetown alike.

Then for over half a century Shawneetown became the chief industrial city of Illinois and the main source of salt for the young nation. The federal government set aside 180,776 acres of land, including most of the present Saline County shown on old maps as the "United States Salines"

Thomas Posey was born in Virginia 9th July 1750. He entered the war of Independence as a Captain, 1776. At its close was Lt. Colonel. At the storm of Stony Point he was first to give the word, "The Forts our own." In the American Republic, he was Brg. General of the U. S. Army; Senator in Congress and Governor of Indiana Territory. In Kentucky, he was Lt. Governor and Maj. General; he died in Illinois on the 19th of March. 1818, leaving an unstained character, a Lasting Monument of his virtue.

Historic Shawneetown



INDIAN POTTERY

and took a tenth of all salt. Production rose to 1,000 bushels a day. Coal mining in Illinois started in connection with the salt works. Pipe lines were invented and extended for many miles to carry the brine from the wells to the evaporation kettles. A small army of men, mostly slaves, toiled day and night in the vast enterprise. When Illinois was admitted to the union in 1818, its constitution prohibited slavery except "at the salt works near Shawneetown", where it continued for many years.

At this time Shawneetown was the gateway city for the State of Illinois through which poured a steady stream of emigrants, the land office where soldiers and others registered their new homesteads, the port where river craft delivered and loaded their cargoes, the banking and legal capital of a wide area. Robert Ingersoll had his law office here. Abraham Lincoln practiced in the circuit court that sat here. The second newspaper in Illinois was printed here. It was a rough and ready and thriving city. In all of Illinois only St. Clair and Gallatin Counties rated three members each in the first state legislature.

Unique among American cities, the site of Shawneetown was never sold as acreage. So rapidly did the settlement grow that the federal government platted a city here and sold each city lot at far more than acres brought elsewhere in the new territory. This was the first sale of public land in Illinois. Washington, D. C. is the only other city laid out by federal surveyors.

The coming of the railroads in the 1850's caught Shawneetown unawares. Possibly, even as the Bank of Shawneetown refused Chicago a loan of $1000 because "Chicago was too far from Shawneetown ever to amount to anything", the town may have haughtily declined the hard pressed early railroads that assistance necessary to the location of a main line through the thriving western metropolis. In any case, the railroads passed by to the North, the river commerce rapidly declined, salt was produced more cheaply in Michigan, the 3,000,000 acres of local public lands were all entered, and Shawneetown began its long slide downhill, until now it has remaining scarcely a vestige of industry.

Within six months after the sale of Shawneetown lots at handsome prices in October, 1814, the waters of the Ohio stood ten to twenty feet deep over the entire site - a river stage of 55 feet. Purchasers petitioned a deaf congress to be relieved of their contracts and to have their money refunded. But Shawneetown boomed and the major Ohio River floods of 1832, 1847, 1853, 1858, 1859

Oldest English Speaking Settlement of Illinois

and 1867 produced little effect. Three successive floods, with a river stage of 66 feet, in 1882, 3 and 4, sent the town to Washington for a levee which was constructed at a cost of about $200,000. The government built many other levees also,upstream, and ever the height of flood waters rose in the constantly restricted river channel, until in 1898 they swept into town and claimed twenty six lives in as many minutes. Another $112,000 of federal money raised the levee a notch higher, only to be topped by th' still higher waters of 1913. In 1933 a third and major rebuilding occurred, but the behemoth of all Ohio floods, with a river stage of 68 feet, submerged the new levee to a depth of eight feet in 1937.

"How deep was the water in this room?" asks the visitor of the clerk in the high ceilinged drugstore on Main Street. "Oh, about eight or nine feet", replies the clerk "Upstairs!"

February, March and April are anxious months each year. And even when the river does not break in, the rain water from the surrounding hill country gathers in the town and creates a most unsanitary situation, especially among the homes and outhouses of the poorer families in the lower half of town. Huddled in the township high school building (at the new site) and in the Red Cross Camp in 1937, 98 per cent of Shawneetown families voted to yield to the river and move to safe ground. More recently three out of four voters showed themselves still of the same mind despite the delays and discouragements of the past two years. 124 families are now living at the new site. Slowly the city of Shawneetown is going from the waters, sad to leave the "Beautiful River" but glad to be free of its terror and economic ruin.

AN ANNUAL STREET SCENE

List of Agencies

FEDERAL

1. Reconstruction Finance Corporation is underwriting a bond issue of $39,000 for the relocation of the water works system, which had been installed just previous to the 1937 flood.

2. Disaster Loan Corporation is loaning to the Housing Authority of Gallatin County $350,000 to be used in acquiring and subdividing new site, rendering architectural and administrative service, building new houses and commercial buildings, and the like. The interest rate is 4%, the term of the loan is twenty years.

3. Works Progress Administration, using relief labor exclusively from Gallatin County, is doing all of the actual construction work with federal and sponsor's funds. No WPA money is permitted to be expended for labor, equipment or materials for the construction of residences or commercial buildings.

STATE

4. Department of Public Works is custodian of an appropriation by the General Assembly of Illinois of $150,000 to purchase the present site of the city of Shawneetown as a state historical park. It is also responsible for developing plans for that park, determining what is to remain and what will be removed.

5. State Geological Survey made a topographic survey of the new site and prepared contour map on which new town plat is based.

6. Department of Highways has charge of State Highway No. 13 over which houses will be moved from old to new site, and of the detour road constructed to by-pass traffic during moving period.

7. State Housing Board acts in general advisory capacity to the Housing Authority of Gallatin County, made a complete survey of present city and analysis of housing and community needs on which the project proposal was based, has loaned important personnel.

COUNTY AND LOCAL

8. Gallatin County, in return for a new court house, must authorize a bond issue for $20,000, proceeds of which will become a part of sponsor's project funds.

9,10. Gallatin County School Districts No. 32 and No. 35 (old and new sites) will consolidate into a single district, and authorize a bond issue of $25,000, proceeds of which will become a part of sponsor's project funds, in return for moved and remodelled colored grade school (recently erected by WPA) and a new white grade school building.

11. Gallatin County School District No. 58 will provide funds to cover materials and skilled labor for a high school gymnasium.

12. City of Shawneetown will borrow money from R.F.C. for non-labor costs of moving and extending water works and will authorize a bond issue of $15,000, proceeds of which will become part of sponsor's project funds, in return for new city hall and community building.

13. Housing Authority of Gallatin County has been created in accordance with state law to act as sponsor on the WPA project, to borrow funds from D.L.C. and to manage the relocation of the city of Shawneetown as the fiscal and legal representative of the community.

14. Town of Junction is eligible under the approved project for the same benefits as the city of Shawneetown. It has not indicated, thus far, to what extent it may finally enter into the project. The present site of the town of Junction is not included within the purchase area for the new state park.

FRESH FROM THE OLD WELL BEHIND FIRST BANK OF ILLINOIS

May 27, 1938

From left to right:

A. R. Lord, Project Manager, Asst. Administrator, WPA, Illinois.
Henry Horner, Governor of Illinois.
F. Lynden Smith, Director of Public Works, State of Illinois.
F. C. Harrington, Administrator, Works Progress Administration.
Emil Schram, Director, Disaster Loan Corporation.

Principal personnel of several of the agencies concerned with the relocation of Shawneetown are shown in these two photos, one taken at Shawneetown when the project was just starting and the other at Springfield at a conference at which financial plans were more fully discussed and determined.

STATE OF ILLINOIS INVESTS IN SHAWNEETOWN AGAIN

June 22, 1938

From left to right:

SEATED

Max H. Galt, Chairman, Housing Authority of Gallatin County.
F. Lynden Smith, Director of Public Works, State of Illinois.
Charles Alexander, Contact Representative, Disaster Loan Corporation.

STANDING

Lincoln Rogers, Gen'l. Mgr. Housing Authority, Jan. to Nov. 1938.
Oscar W. Rosenthal, Chairman, Illinois State Housing Board.
H. F. Howell, Mayor of Shawneetown, Manager since December, 1938.
O. K. Yeager, Director of Building Division, Federal W.P.A.
A. R. Lord, Project Manager, Asst. Administrator, W.P.A. Illinois.
Charles E. Miner, Administrator, W.P.A. Illinois.

Location and Plan of New Town

The main business street of Shawneetown lies at elevation 350 above sea level. The highest residential streets are only a few feet higher; the lowest, ten feet lower. Top of the levee is 367, flood crest in 1937, was 375. The new site adjoining the Township High School campus, is a gently rolling area of 320 acres, with elevation running down to about 390 on the southeast, up to 460 on the northwest. It lies astride of State Highway No. 13, three and a half miles west of the old town, twenty miles east of Harrisburg. The soil is a sandy clay, changing within a few feet of depth to pure sand - very fine, wet mobile sand - which extends to a depth of 170 feet.

Very good soil for raising water melons and cantaloupes, equally effective in raising sewer lines if left with too little backfill for even a few hours. Very bad soil for excavating basements or deep trenches. A trench twenty feet deep results in caveins over width of fifty feet. Sand that moves endlessly through the least crack in the sheeting, or the finest void in a joint, and plugs a 400-mesh screen in a few minutes. The new site was anything but encouraging for WPA construction forces.

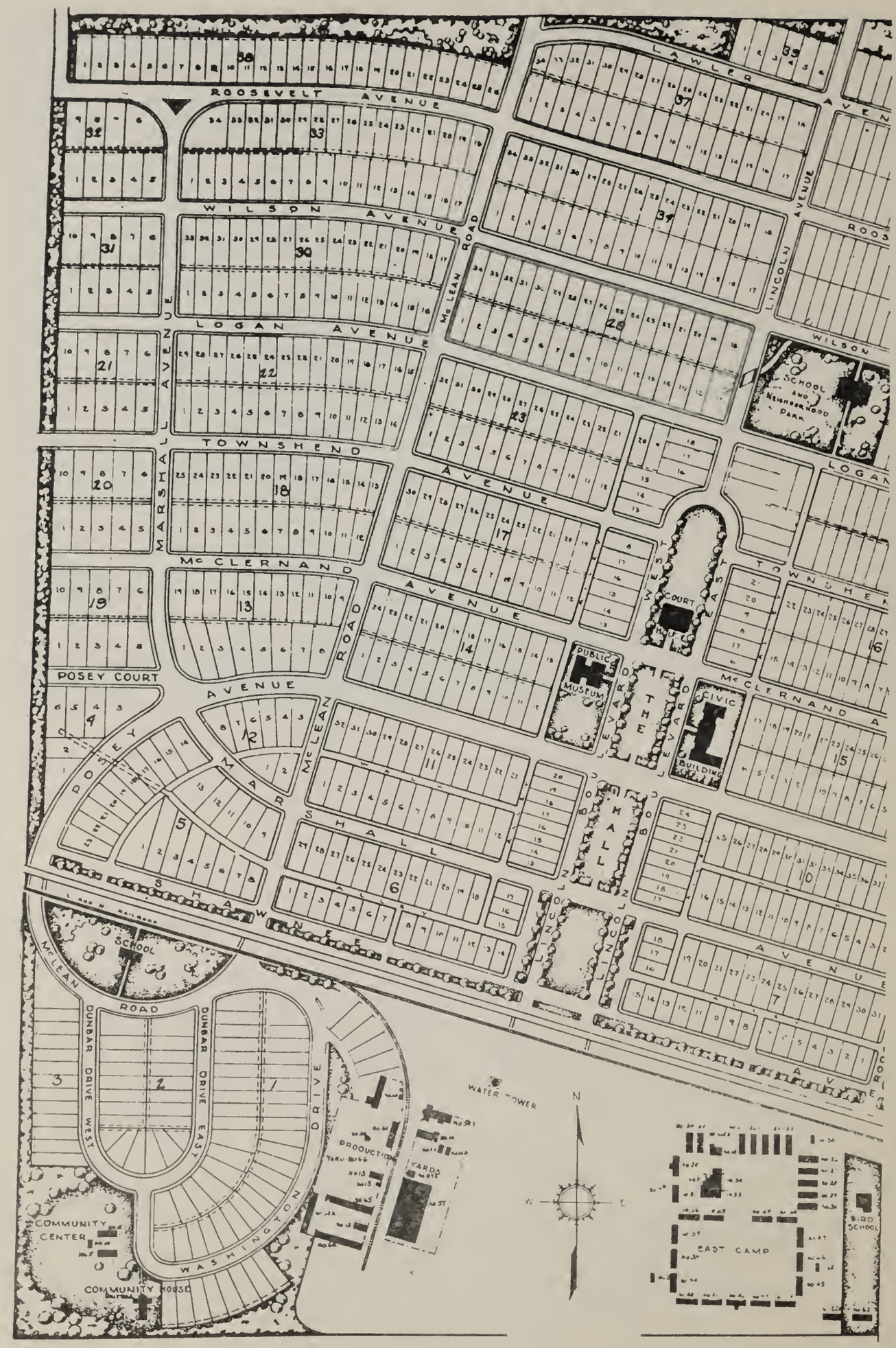
But a lovely site for living. To the south the impressive bulk of Gold Hill, across a wide valley. In all other directions rolling hills, tier on tier, to the horizon. Immediately to the east a valley long ago designated by the State Planning Commission as the site of a 700-acre lake for water conservation - an excellent neighbor to look forward to.

On this site has been laid out (by Mary Long and Lincoln Rogers) a simple town plan, shown on the next two pages, except that the illustration shows the present shop, yard and camp instead of the industrial section south of the highway and railroad. The main business section extends along Shawnee Avenue (parallel and adjacent to Route No. 13 but separated from it by planting) for about 4,000 feet and back on the central Mall for 800 feet where it meets the civic section. The Mall is 250 feet wide, broken only by the court house located at its highest point 1,500 feet north of the highway, and already planted with elms. Posey Avenue curves away from the State Highway at one end of the site and back to it again at the other, giving direct access to the civic center. The city building and the historical museum face each other across the Mall, with a site reserved for a future post office building beside the museum. The white grade school is farther north out of business traffic and near the center of school population. The colored grade school is south of the highway, as is the colored residential section. At the present time streets, walks, sewers and water works will not serve the area north of Wilson Avenue.

The new site has been legally annexed to and is a part of the old city of Shawneetown. Families move from the east end to the west end of town and the same is true of public buildings, water works and houses. Public debts do not move, however, for Shawneetown has no bonded indebtedness, aside from PWA water revenue bonds.

Access to the new town is already provided from the South by the new detour road, which was not flooded in the recent high waters and which is shorter for customers of southern Gallatin County than the present road. Over the hills to the North a new road is planned connecting with improved county roads which serve that portion of the county.

Plat of Relocated Shawneetown



Plat of Relocated Shawneetown

STATISTICS OF THE NEW TOWN

Shawneetown is prepared to resume its growth at the new site. The present city is built on approximately 100 acres of land; the new site comprises 320 acres. There were 425 families in Shawneetown when the project application was prepared, but a considerable number of families have moved back now that flood danger is to be removed. The new plat provides 900 residential lots of which 585 are to be improved immediately, and the rest held in reserve for future growth. 81 of these lots are in the colored neighborhood, 266 are East of the Mall and 238 are West of the Mall. The size of residential lot is, in general, 40 or 50 feet front by 150 feet depth.

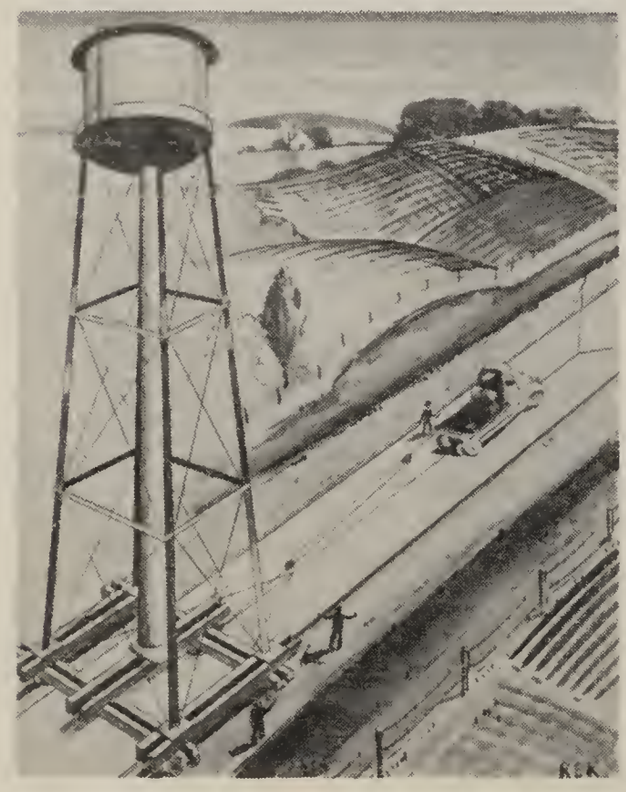
There are 77 business lots, generally 50 foot frontage by 100 feet depth. A few are deeper. These are all North of Highway No. 13. South of that highway lies the industrial section with 65 lots at present, averaging 50 feet in width and 125 feet in depth. These are all served by railroad siding already built or so located that railroad service can readily be provided.

The length of streets to be surfaced now is 36,200 feet. The area of sidewalks will be 292,000 sq. ft. The length of the sewer mains is 28,200 feet. The length of water mains will be 39,425 feet. The sewage treatment plant will have a capacity of 250,000 gallons daily. The grading of the site will involve moving approximately 150,000 cubic yards of dirt. The family camp provides 181 rooms.

Construction materials stored in the yard are valued at over $100,000. The nursery contains 1800 trees and 15,000 shrubs.

Subdivisions of the Project

1. Preparation of Town Plan, preparation of and filing of legal plat and preparation of all plans, specifications and contracts are the responsibility of the Housing Authority of Gallatin County, who maintain an office and employ a staff of architects, engineers, draftsmen, clerks, typists, accountant, etc. WPA constructs in accordance with Housing Authority plans, using WPA funds on public work and H.A. funds on private work.
2. The Sewer System, comprising about 2,500 feet of 15 inch vitrified clay sewer tile (laid at a cost of $2.60 per foot), 6,500 feet of 12 inch pipe (laid for $1.82 per foot) and 19,200 feet of 8 inch pipe (laid for $0.72 per foot) is all in place and part of it already in service. Estimated cost of 20,400 feet of sewers was $28,000. Actual cost of 28,200 feet of sewers was $32,180. Increase in footage due to relocation of treatment plant and additional developed area.



3. The Sewage Disposal Plant is designed to handle the needs of a city of 3,000 population (against Shawneetown's present 1,800). Work on the plant is just starting. A booster pumping station, to elevate the sewage from one twelve-inch main, has been substantially completed at a cost of $2,583. Estimated cost of sewage disposal plant, $29,000.
4. The Water Works System will include 39,425 feet of mains of which 17,125 feet are to be recovered from the present system in the old town and relaid at the new site. Lengths of each size of main are as follows:
   8-inch 10,200 feet, including 2,400 feet relaid.
   6-inch 14,700 feet, including 10,000 feet relaid.
   4-inch 10,525 feet, including 3,000 feet relaid.
   2-inch 4,000 feet, including 1,725 feet relaid.
   The project estimate included only 29,080 feet, the overrun being due to the same reasons as that on sewers. Unit costs (the work being about 50 percent complete) are running so far below estimated costs as to warrant the belief that the extra 10,345 feet can be provided within the original total estimated cost.
   The water system also includes removal of present pumping plant and 85,000-gallon elevated tank from old to new town site, a new well (or wells) at the new location and provision of partial water supply at both locations during the moving period. The new well is now down to a depth of about 40 feet.
5. Streets and Sidewalks. Requirements for street grading and surfacing have in-

creased from 5 miles in the project estimate to 7 miles in the final plans and for sidewalks from an estimated 244,000 sq. ft. to a final 292,000 sq. ft. About two miles of streets and one mile of sidewalks have been built. About 130,000 cubic yards of general grading have been completed at a unit price of 8.08 cents per cu. yd., which is much below the estimated cost of this work. Sidewalks are costing almost exactly the estimated price of 18 cents per sq. ft., but this price is expected to drop materially with favorable weather, as all work to date has required winter protection. Project allowance for this item is $106,000.

6. Work Shops, Yard, Field Offices and Camp. About one half of the material for these 72 temporary buildings was secured by wrecking three work camps and transporting the material to Shawneetown where it has been reerected. The work is completed. This estimated cost of erecting and later removing 43 such buildings was $76,300. The actual cost of completing 72 buildings has been $67,712, leaving ample reserve for final demolition. Over $100,000 worth of lumber and other building materials are now in the yard, ready for the Spring construction season.

6a. Two of the buildings are permanent. The Host House, 200 feet long by 31 feet wide, is of frame construction faced with native sandstone, and is a 20-room modern hotel with dining room and coffee shop. It has cost $13,500 and has been turned over to the Housing Authority, which is now seeking a tenant to operate it. A picture of this building appears on page 31.

6b. The Production Shop, 85 feet by 180 feet, has only two rows of interior columns in its 180-foot length and is an excellent factory building with monitor roof lighting, steam heat, modern plumbing, etc. It has been equipped with an adequate line of wood and metal working machinery for the production of finished framing lumber and all kinds of building material ready to be quickly assembled in the field. It is expected that some industry will locate here and occupy this building to afford employment to Shawneetown workers. The production shop has cost $24,871, including about $4,600 for equipment.

7. Gallatin County Court House. Under the project as planned and subject to approval of bond issue, a new court house will be built by WPA to replace the one built in 1848 at a cost of $18,600. After the 1937 flood about $3,000 was spent on repairs absolutely necessary to safety. The project provides $61,640 for the new building and the estimated cost of the building according to final plans is $65,000. No work has been started.

Subdivisions of the Project

8. Shawneetown Community Building. The city has no city hall or community center and this building, for which $55,467 is set up in the project, will serve a long-felt need. The estimated cost according to final plans is $45,000. No work has been started.
9. Colored Grade School. A new colored grade school was completed by WPA in Shawneetown in 1936. This building will be moved and placed on new foundations south of the highway. The estimated cost of this work is about $6,000.
10. White Grade School. The present white school is a large brick building which cannot be moved. A new fireproof school building has been planned, costing about $60,000. No work on schools has been started.
11. High School Gymnasium. After being used as a refuge by 700 citizens of Shawneetown in the 1937 flood, the township high school gymnasium caught fire and was totally destroyed, along with much private property stored in it. The high school was also damaged and has been repaired by the School District. Estimated cost of entirely new gymnasium is $37,000. Excavation and foundations are substantially completed at a cost of $3,626. The building will be ready for occupancy when school starts in the Fall.

12. Historical Museum. In spite of the steady and irreparable loss from repeated floods, there still remains a large amount of material of great value which is available for the collection to be housed in this fireproof building, estimated to cost $60,000. No work has been started, except on the collection, for which many valuable items have been received without solicitation.
13. Moving Existing Buildings. Many of the buildings of old Shawneetown are very large brick buildings, which cannot be moved 3-1/2 miles for any reasonable cost, even with the complete equipment for moving that has been assembled on the project. An estimate has been prepared of the cost of moving each building that can be moved and each owner must determine for himself whether to move or wreck and build new. The project proposal was based on moving 250 houses but the final number will probably be less. Moved houses will be remodelled according to plans prepared by the Housing Authority. The estimated cost of moving and remodelling was $310,000. Work not yet started.
14. Building New Houses. The project proposal contemplates the erection of 175 new houses at an estimated cost of $290,000. The final number will probably be larger. No work has been started.
15. Commercial Buildings. The stores in old Shawneetown are of brick construction generally and cannot be moved. New store buildings estimated to cost $104,459 are included in the project. Work not yet started.

Subdivisions of the Project

16. Demolition and Clearing. Property purchased by the State of Illinois and not retained as a part of the new historical park will be demolished by WPA and the salvage materials employed in new construction. The estimated cost of this work is $71,645. Seven buildings have been wrecked and salvaged to date, at a cost of $1,163.

17. Highway Changes. As part of the cost of moving houses, it was necessary to remove a concrete bridge with high girders set close to the pavement, on State Highway No. 13. A new multiplate arch bridge has been installed at a cost of $7,431. The old bridge, weighing over 150 tons, has been moved about 1-1/2 miles to a new location on Lincoln Ave. and is now in final position on new foundations. The shoulders on Route 13 have been widened and all is in readiness for moving houses when contracts are released.

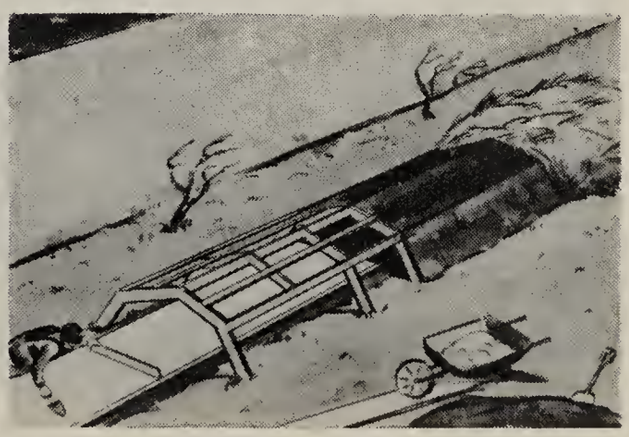
17a. It was also necessary to build a detour road, about 2-1/2 miles long, to be used by Route 13 traffic when that highway was used for moving houses. This work has been completed as a part of the county-wide highway project. It includes two steel and concrete bridges and much heavy grading. During the recent high water this road has served as the only approach to Shawneetown from the south. It will be the main southern feeder road when the town has moved. At a later time a new feeder road will be built from the north.

18. Handicraft Training. Shawneetown has always been a popular vacation center, with its lakes for bathing and fishing, and its historical interest, but the sale of items to such visitors has never been developed as a means of support for families. A well equipped shop, located in two of the temporary buildings, has been provided and instruction in many lines is now offered by the P. and S. Division of District No. 5.

18a. A very attractive four-room masonry Craft House has been erected, separated from the Host House by a garden, in which handicraft items made by project workers on their own time and from their own materials are offered for sale. This project will also make furniture and equipment for public buildings in the new town in accordance with special designs originating in old and new Shawneetown.

19. Arts and Literature. The public buildings of the new city are to be decorated with hangings and murals produced by the Federal Art Project of WPA. The Federal Writers Project will prepare a Shawneetown Guide, which will be one of the most important in the Illinois series of guides.

20. Recreation. The assembling of between 600 and 700 persons of all ages in the camp at the new site has offered a challenge to the recreation division of District No. 5, which is now at work.

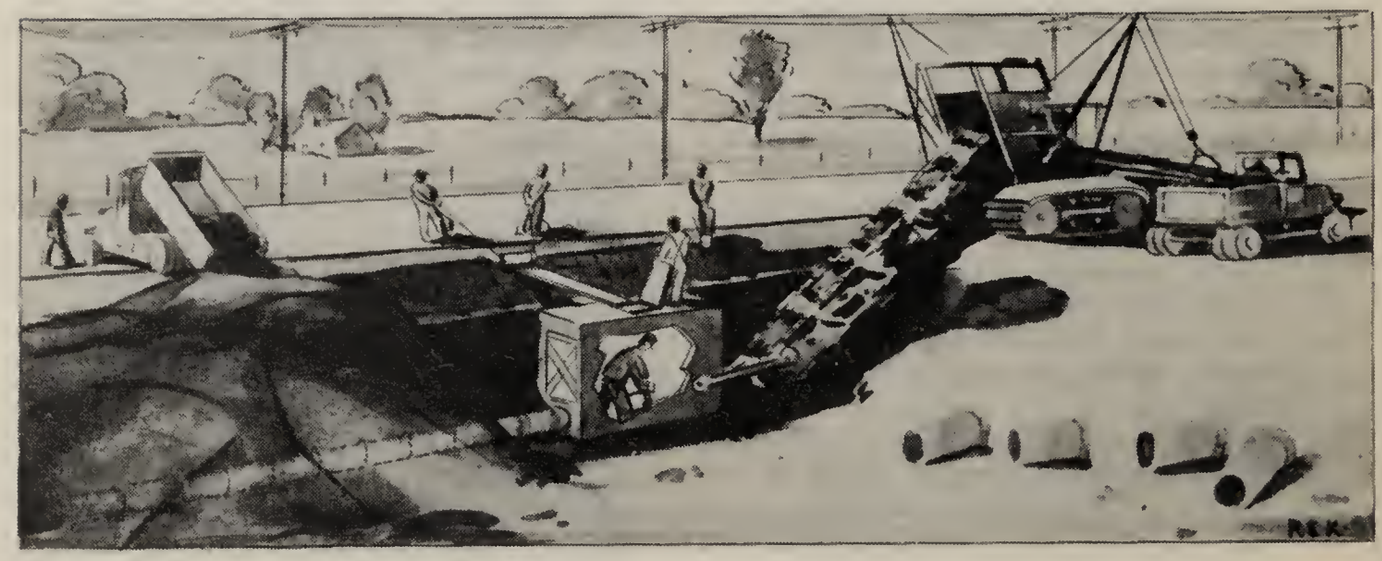


Sewer Construction

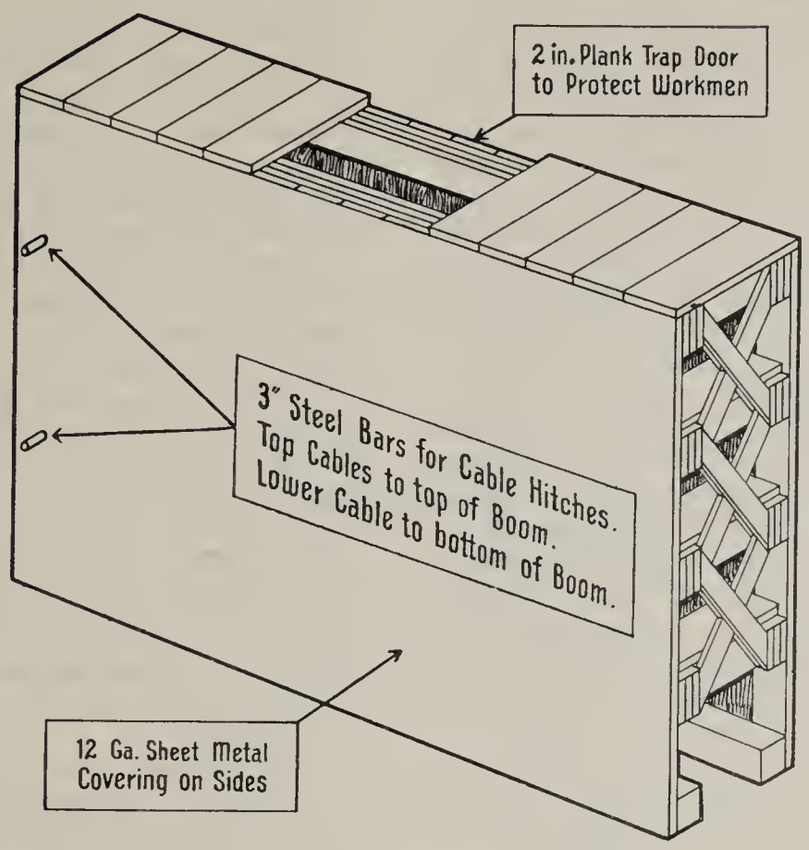
The project contemplated that most of the sewer trenches would be dug by hand labor furnishing a large volume of employment in a community where, as the result of the economic devastation of repeated floods, over half of the families have been forced onto relief. When the actual new site was acquired and turned over to us on May 5, 1938, the soil was found to forbid such hand work. Trenches more than four to five feet deep had to be shored (and even shallower ones, if they stood for any time) and at depths of fourteen to twenty four feet, where most of the main sewer lines were located, the lateral pressure from this fine, wet, mobile sand would have required extraordinarily heavy and expensive trench bracing, and made the work very hazardous.

A trenching machine was secured and went to work on May 11, 1938. We soon found that, in order to lay a 15-inch sewer tile we were excavating a trench of an average width of 25 to 30 feet, and handling eight to ten cubic yards of dirt per foot of trench. The trenching machine was being heavily overloaded and threatened a sit down strike (not then considered illegal). The quality of a WPA project, however, is measured by the quality of its superintendents. Capt. F. H. Morlan, General Superintendent on this project, and T. J. Prendergast, Sewer and Water Superintendent, put their heads together and devised a "box" to be dragged by the ditching machine, in which tile layers could work safely and which would prevent the banks from caving in. Sewer contractors of great experience told us that it would not work, but it did, nevertheless, and saved us many thousands of dollars.

The drawing indicates the arrangement for sewer construction as finally used on over four miles of sewers. The trenching machine cut a trench to the required depth, with a crew of men spudding on each side to maintain stable banks for the short time the trench was open. The end of the digging boom dragged the box, shown in the separate drawing, by means of two channel beams. Workmen in the box shaped the bottom to receive the tile at grade and mortared the joints. Two dump trucks received the earth from the delivery belt of the trenching machine and dumped it on the back end of the box, keeping the trench always backfilled. By this arrangement two to four hundred feet of sewer were laid in an 8-hour shift.



The Sand Hog Box That Saved Time and Money



It was found that every foot of tile not loaded down with several feet of backfill was floated (as much as 18 to 20 inches) out of grade when it stood overnight. An hour or two each morning was wasted in the difficult job of getting the last laid lengths of tile back in place. It was therefore decided to work twenty-four hours a day. Lights were installed on the machine and in the box and no further interruptions were suffered. The cost of the work done compares very favorably with costs under private contract. In fact, several contractors have stated that they could have saved tremendous sums on their own contracts in similar soil had they developed this Shawneetown box. Only one serious accident occurred during the sewer construction, due to a cavein that buried a man while making a sharp change in alignment, at a time when the safeguard of the box could not be employed. That man has been back on the project for some time, doing light work.

A small portion of the system has been laid without the help of equipment but such possibilities have been very limited. A booster pumping station has been required by the actual terrain (not contemplated in the original proposal) in order to elevate sewage from the east portion of the new site and avoid a very expensive lowering of grade for the main sewer over a distance of a mile. Steel sheet piling was driven and a reinforced concrete tank and pumping chamber (two compartments) built. An automatic sewage ejector pump will be mounted in this station.

Manholes have been constructed of concrete, the lower section being precast and used as a caisson bell. The upper sections of concrete have been added as the excavation proceeded to the required depth. The sewer lines were then sealed into the concrete base, placed as the final operation. The top concrete section is tapered to fit the manhole casting. All forms were of wood, with sheet metal lining, and have been used thirty to forty times.

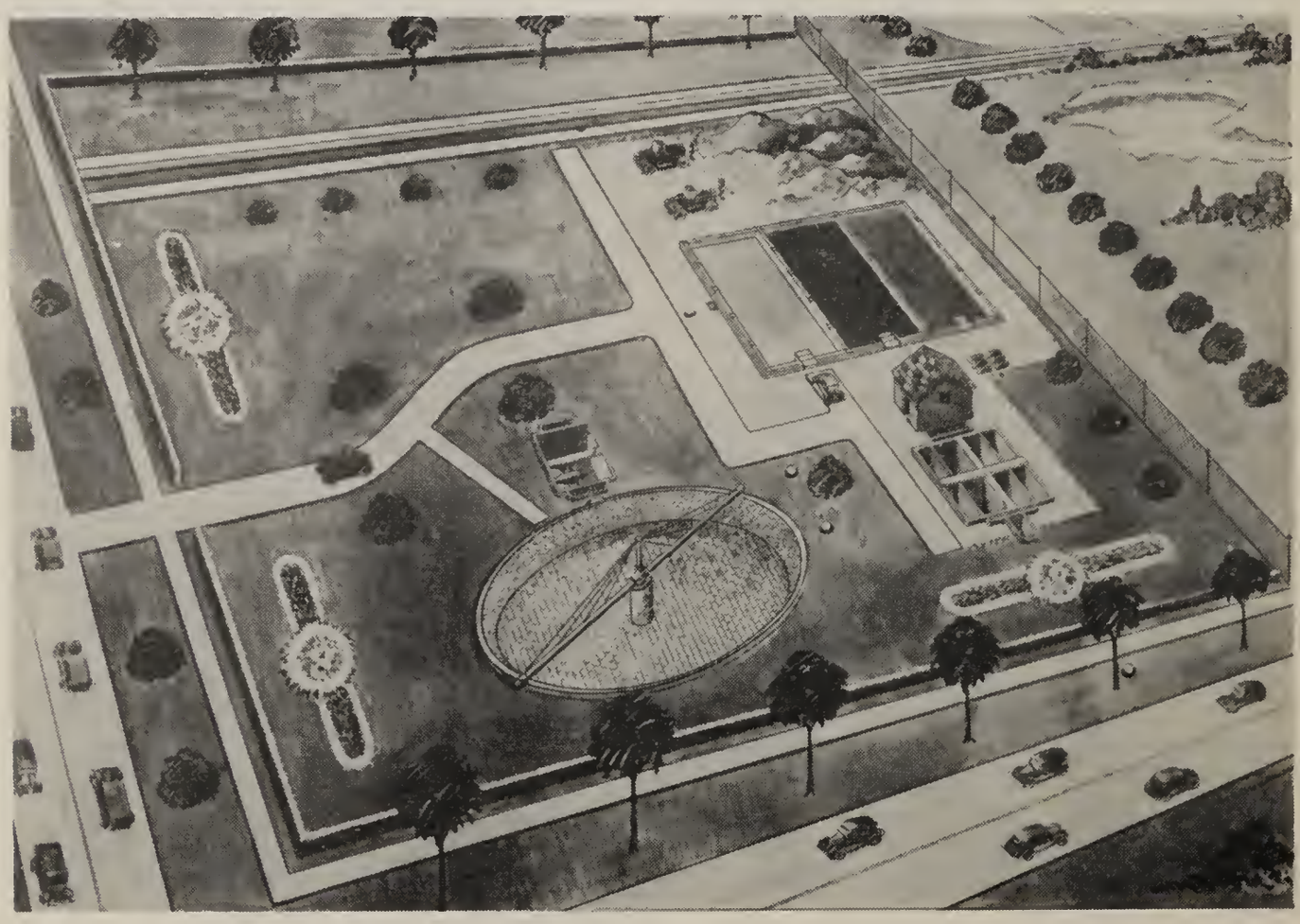
Sewage Treatment Plant

The disposal plant for the new sewer system, located on 1-5/6 acres of land one half mile south of town on State Aid Route No. 2, is designed to handle 250,000 gallons in a 24-hour period, which would care for the needs of a population of 2500 to 3000 with a very liberal use allowance. The construction work includes a pump house and 800 feet of pipe lines, a primary settling tank 32 by 35 feet and 29 feet deep, a distributor and trickling filter 82 feet in diameter and 7 feet deep, a secondary settling tank 14 by 23 feet and 20 feet deep and the filter beds 50 by 60 feet. The flow line has been raised as high as possible in order to reduce the depth of excavation in the fine flowing sand of the site. Steel sheet piling has been rented to sheet the excavation for the settling tanks.

The plant is designed so that the raw sewage, in the event of the breakdown of any of the various units, can be by-passed to either the primary or the secondary tank or discharged direct into the effluent channel until such breakdown has been repaired. In almost any circumstances, the sewage will receive at least primary reduction treatment before discharging into the drainage ditch. In normal operations the effluent will pass a better test than drinking water in most city supplies.

The plant is operated on a gravity basis with the exception of the effluent discharge from the primary tank to the trickling filter, at which point it is handled by two 4-inch centrifugal pumps operating alternately and automatically. These pumps are designed to pump 350 gallons per minute against a 20-foot head.

Work on the construction of the sewage treatment plant was started on March 1, 1939, the water lines (except for pipe to be recovered from old town) and the sewer lines having been completed as of that date.



Water Supply

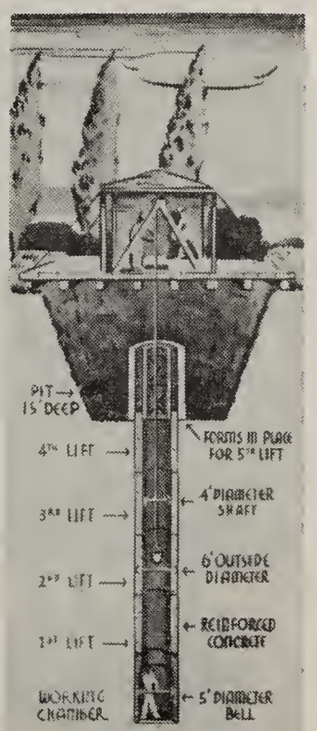
Construction problems in connection with the water works are quite simple and the shallow trenches required are excavated entirely by hand labor at reasonable costs. The trick feature (there is always something different from straight WPA work at Shawneetown) on water works is to maintain service at two points 3-1/2 miles apart with the same mains. The new town, with 7-1/2 miles of mains, uses 3-1/2 miles of pipe now in the ground and in use in the old town. Four thousand feet of this old pipe has been recovered to date, with substantially no breakage. A tractor is employed to release the leadite joints and the pipe comes clean. All new joints are made with lead.

Each additional recovery is harder and harder to find. There is a limit to the number of temporary surface lines that can be installed economically. Fortunately, water is easily obtained from shallow wells in old Shawneetown and the old hand pumps are, many of them, still in place. "City water" has been available in this community for only two years. With patience, the problem will be worked out with the minimum of inconvenience.

The water supply at the new town is temporarily provided through three deep well pumps and three 1500-gallon pressure storage tanks, recovered from three closed WPA work camps. When the city pumps and elevated water tank are moved to the new town site, these camp pumps and tanks will move to the old town to replace them. The moving of the 85,000-gallon city tank, which stands 100 feet tall, is not expected to be a difficult problem, although it is a spectacular one. The tank will be emptied, disconnected from its base and moved in an upright position to new foundations previously prepared in the new town.

The new well has proven a very difficult problem. There is an abundant supply of satisfactory water at any point in the new site. But it is everywhere accompanied by the same fine, mobile sand that was found in the sewer trenches. This sand is so fine that it penetrates the smallest opening. A 400-mesh well screen is completely blocked in a few minutes. WPA rented a well rig and put down three cased wells, one of which yielded about 200 gallons per hour. Any attempt to step up these new wells or to increase the flow of several existing wells resulted in complete stoppage.

It was finally decided that it would be necessary to construct a caisson type of well, in order to get an adequate volume of water without inducing a velocity of flow, underground, sufficiently rapid for the water to transport the fine sand. It was believed that this sand would not move at velocities of a foot per second or less. On this theory a precast concrete caisson has been made and sunk to a depth of about forty feet where it now awaits the arrival of pumps suitable to dewater the bell at greater depths. The water supply appears to be adequate in volume at any depth, but it is necessary to go deeper to be safe against surface pollution. As the bell is excavated and sunk, the shaft is built upward by placing new sections of concrete. The attached drawing shows details of this well.

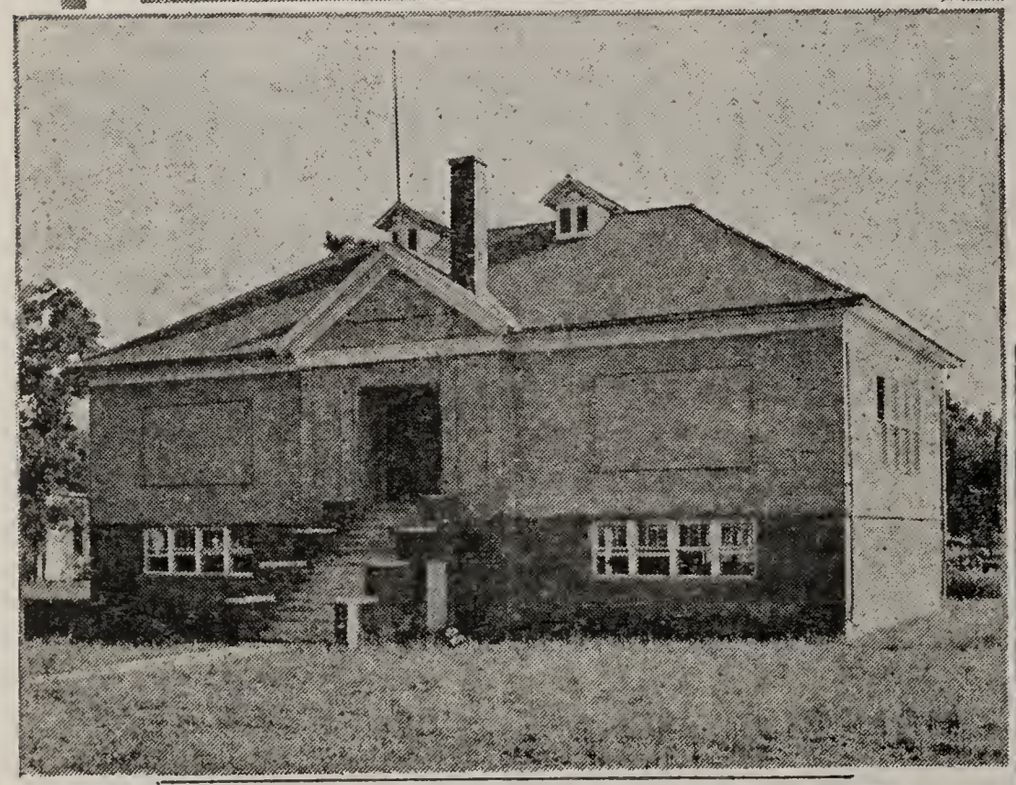


WELL CONSTRUCTION

OLD COURT HOUSE

NEW COU

NEW C

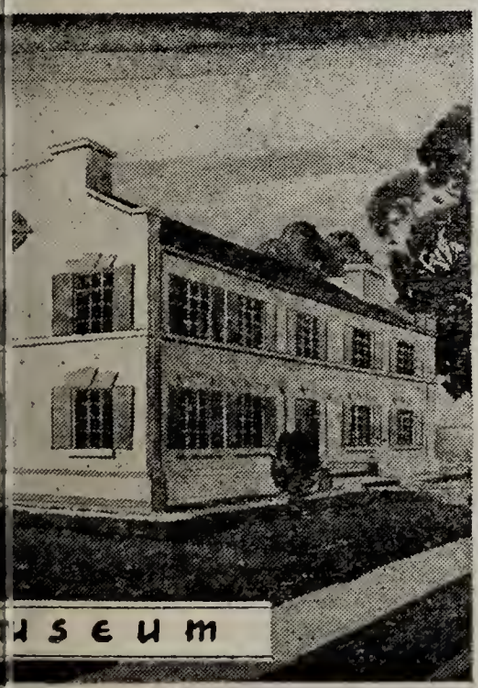


COLORED SCHOOL

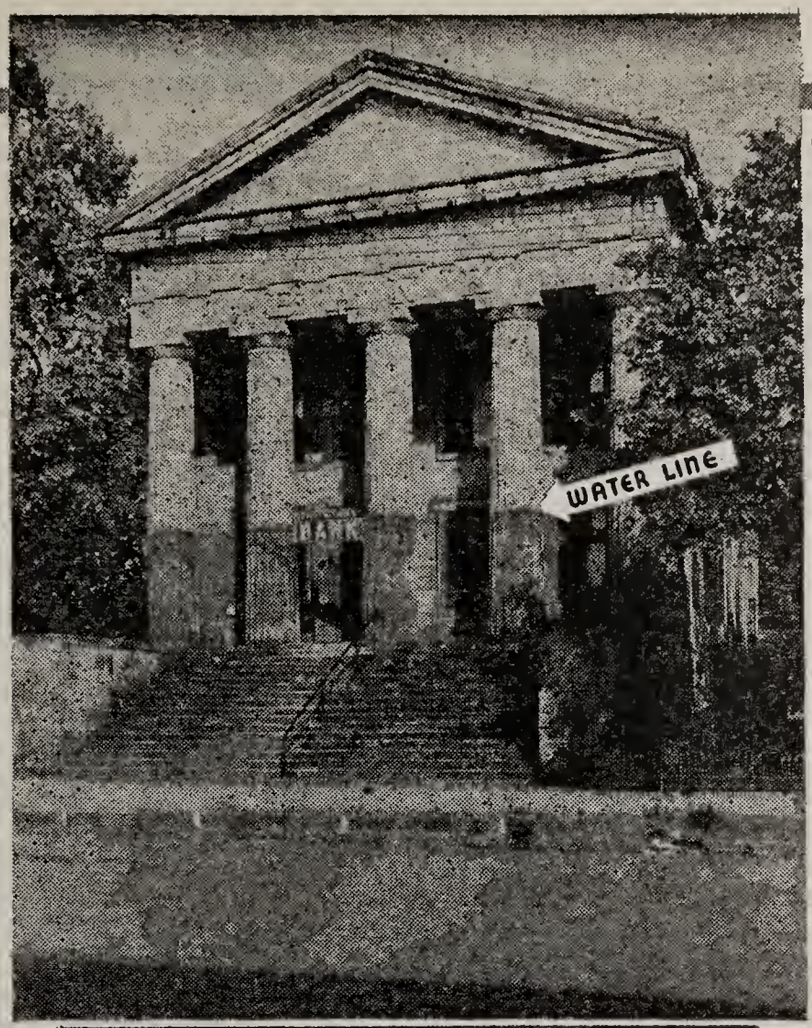
NEW

T HOUSE

Y BLDG



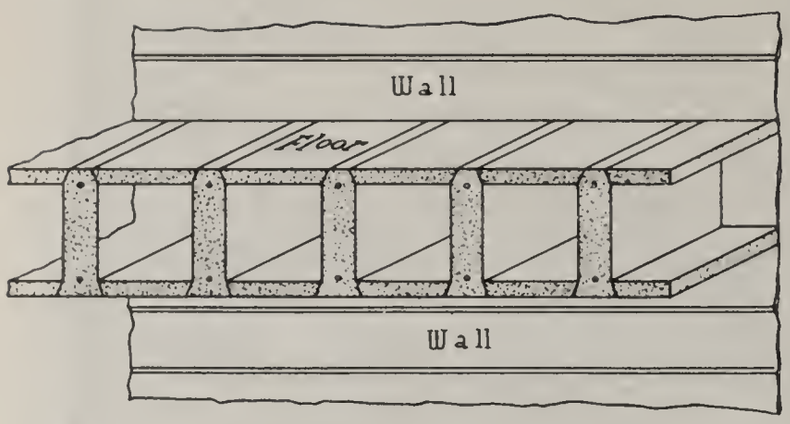
USEUM

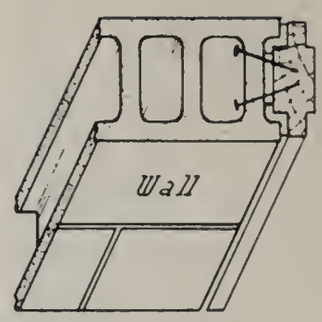


OLD BANK BLDG

OLD POSEY BLDG

Public Buildings





The public buildings to be erected by WPA in relocated Shawneetown - including the Court House, City Building, Grade School and Museum - will all be of fireproof floor and wall construction. By the fortunate circumstance that these four principal buildings may be built in sequence, and from plans organized to the same basic design, it will be possible to attain fire safety at substantially no increase in cost.

The formwork for the precast reinforced concrete floors and roofs will be used over and over until the requirements of all four buildings have been met. Instead of a formwork cost of 25 to 30 cents per square foot involved in a single use in the ordinary manner, the cost of forms on this group of buildings is not expected to exceed 10 cents per square foot. All concrete will be mixed in the central mixing plant on the project under precise controls, which will result in better concrete at a lower cost.

All partitions and the back-up of all exterior walls will be made of cinder concrete block of standard size and jointing. All dimensions, including those of door and window openings, have been worked out so as to eliminate the cutting and fitting of block on the job. This makes the construction more suitable for partially skilled labor and reduces time and material losses to a minimum.

The bucks and trim at all openings in walls and partitions have been designed, as in the Craft House already built, for utmost simplicity with savings in both material and labor. Such items will be produced in advance in the production shop and built solidly into the walls as they are erected.

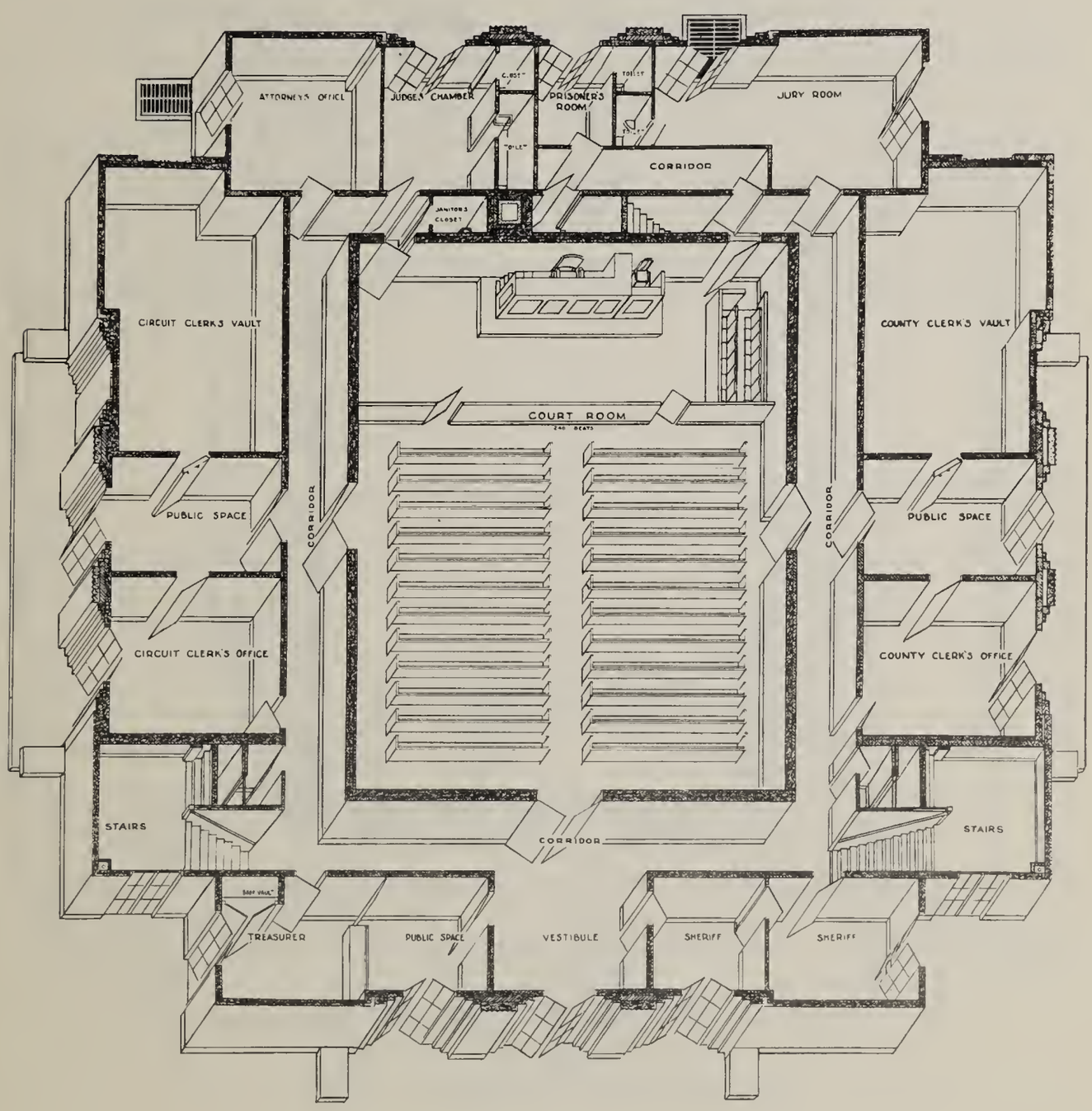
Plastering will be almost entirely eliminated. The design of the walls and partitions to avoid irregular jointing and cut block, produces a pleasing pattern on all exposed walls without the expense and long delay involved in plastering. The same is true of the precast ceilings.

The cost of heating these buildings will be reduced by the fact that the space between precast floor joists will serve as heat distributing ducts when connected to main heating ducts in the corridors. This radiant type of heating is especially desirable for operating economies, also. Economy in operating these buildings has been a major factor in the design throughout.

Design of the public buildings has been the combined responsibility of the sponsor and the WPA. Our interest has been to make WPA funds produce as much and as good building as possible while the sponsor has been primarily interested in planning and architecture. Sponsor has been fortunate in having the services of two very competent architects furnished

Gallatin County Courthouse

by the State of Illinois, namely, Lincoln Rogers, A.I.A., who acted as General Manager of the Housing Authority from January to November, 1938, and Clarence Buckingham, who has been in Shawneetown for nearly two years, both on assignment by the Department of Public Works. Other architectural employees of the sponsor have also worked on the plans for these buildings. Models of these buildings are shown at both the San Francisco and New York Fairs in the Illinois Exhibits.

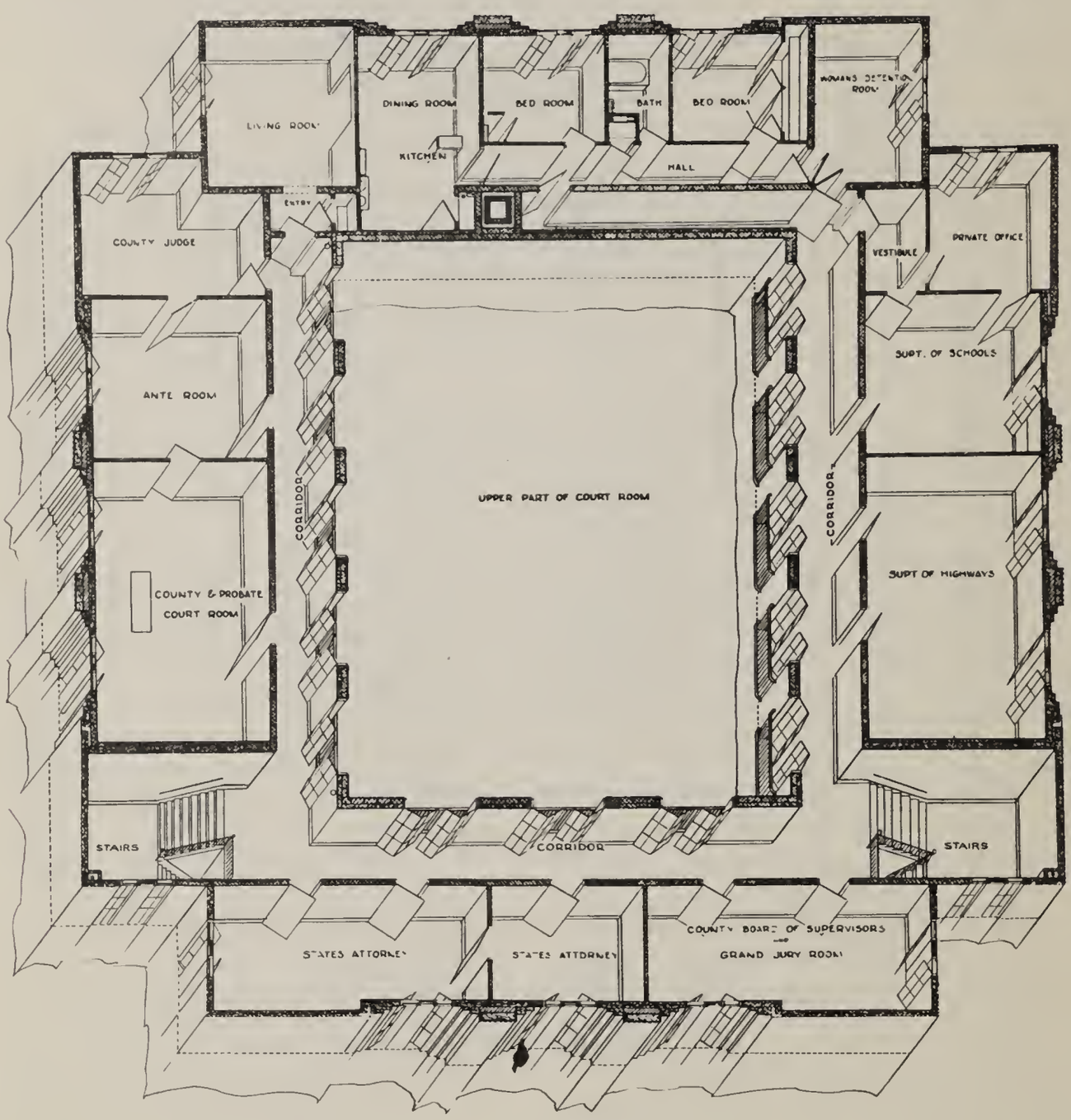


The present court house of Gallatin County, in old Shawneetown, was erected in 1848 at cost of $18,600. It was badly damaged by the flood of 1937 and about $3000 was expended in repairs essential to its continued occupancy. The county needed a new court house, in keeping with its importance among the 101 counties of Illinois, and the relocation of the city has afforded a suitable occasion for rebuilding. Spon-

Gallatin County Courthouse

sor's funds in the approved project include a $20,000 contribution to be made by the county in exchange for a new court house.

The design is a conservative modern type of architecture, well fitted to "register" effectively at the North end of the Mall as viewed from Highway No. 13, or from any other direction. For this court house will have no front and back - all four elevations will be the same. This is economical as well as attractive, since the



concrete trimstone will be cast in the same molds for all faces at minimum expense.

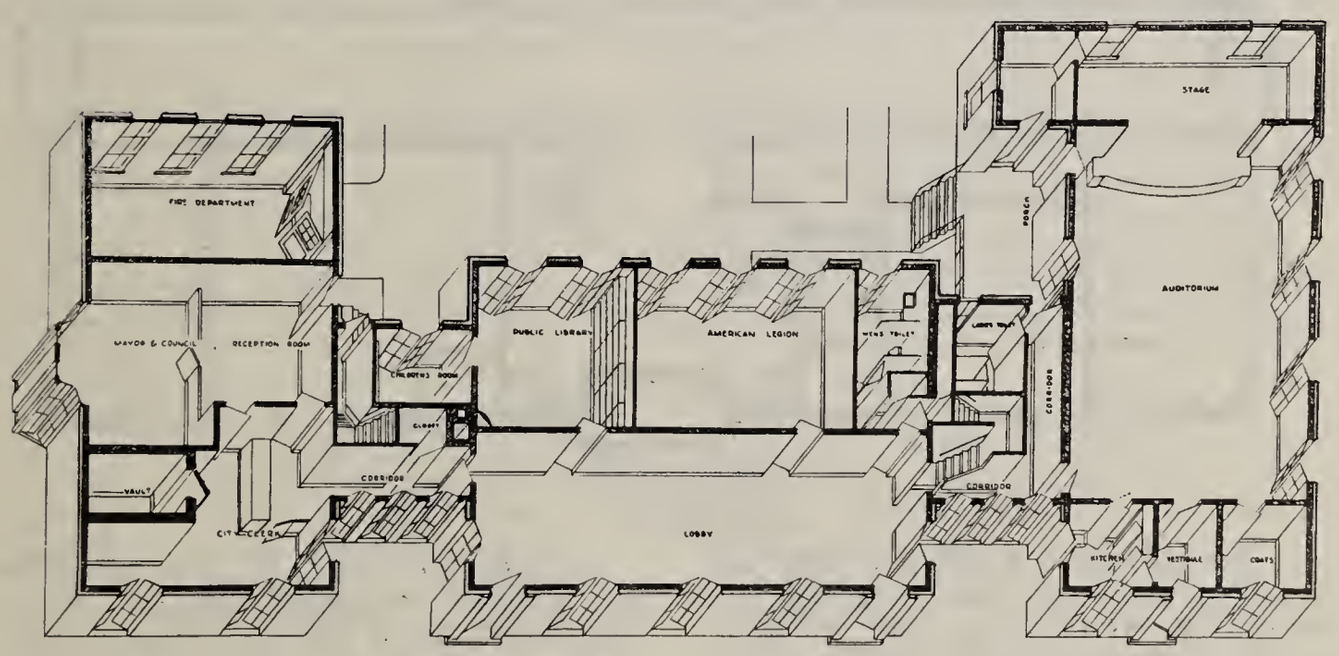
The building is approximately one hundred feet square by twenty-seven feet high. It has the architectural appearance of a massive one-story structure, but inside, except for the 44x55x24-foot court room at its center, it is two stories high, with a basement at one end only. The walls will be faced with native sand stone, similar to that already in place on the Host House,

Shawneetown City Building

which is already quarried and cut, with trimstone of cast concrete made with sandstone aggregate from the same source. The exterior trim and millwork will be of native cypress.

On the first floor in addition to the main courtroom which is flanked by chambers for the judge and for counsel, a prisoner room and a jury room, are the vaults and office space of the Clerks of the County and Circuit Courts, the offices of County Treasurer and of the Sheriff and public restrooms for both sexes. On the second floor is located the office of the State's Attorney, a board room for the County Board of Supervisors (used also as the Grand Jury Room), the office and petit courtroom of the County Judge, the offices of the County Superintendent of Schools and the County Superintendent of Highways, and an apartment for the use of the Sheriff and his family, including a detention room for women prisoners.

The jail for men, together with the heating plant for the building, are located in the basement at the north end of the building. On the roof will be an air marker identifying Gallatin County and Shawneetown to travelers by air. Adequate parking facilities will be available in the landscaped grounds to the north.



CITY OF SHAWNEETOWN BUILDING

On the East side of the Mall, occupying the block between Posey and McClernand Aves., will stand the one-story colonial city hall and community center, 148 feet long by 72 feet wide. The exterior of this building will be faced with native sandstone like the court house or with brick reclaimed from ancient buildings of the old town and painted white. Woodwork will be of cypress.

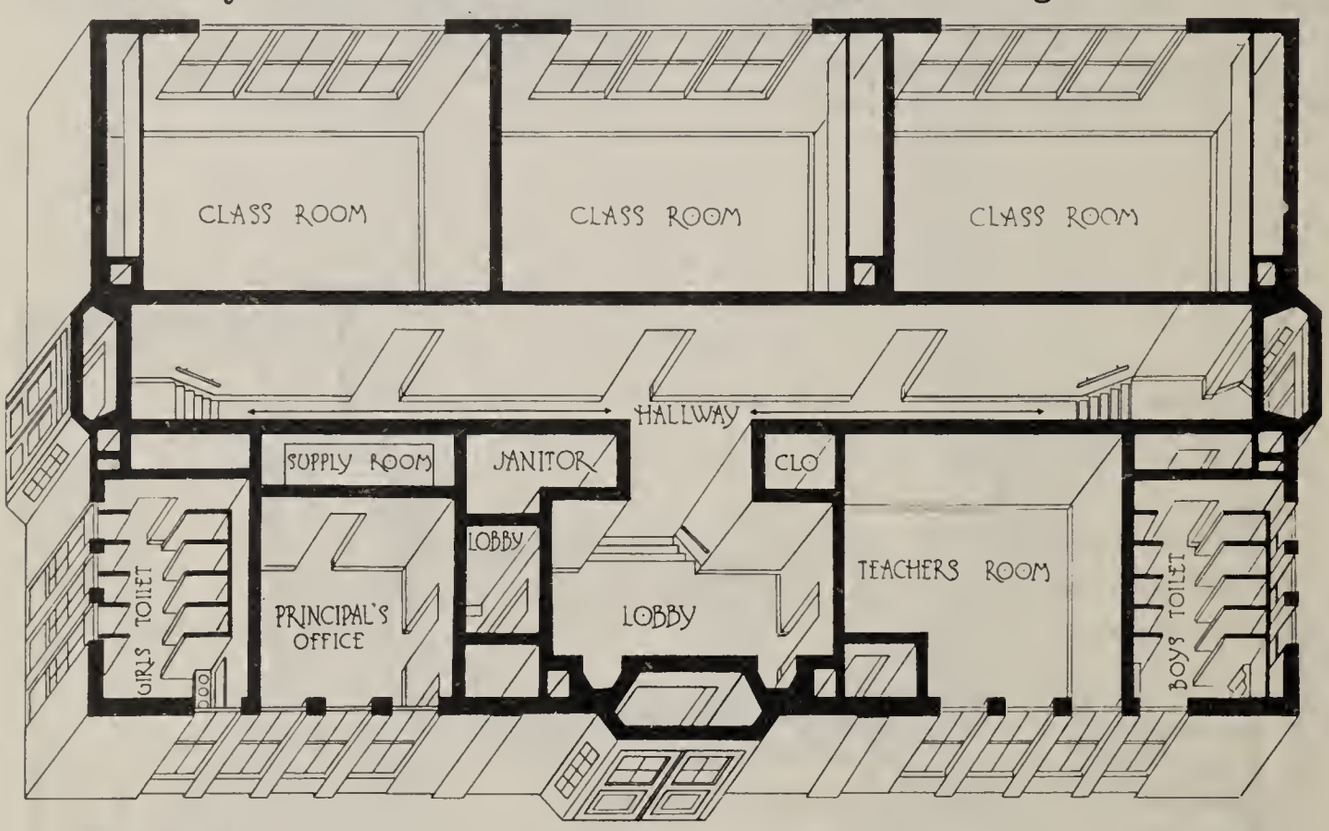
Shawneetown Grade School House

The center wing of this large building contains a public lobby, 17 by 53 feet, a library room, with a children's reading room adjoining, quarters for the American Legion and rest rooms for men and women.

The south wing will contain an auditorium 27 by 43 feet flanked at one end by a stage and dressing rooms and at the other by a small kitchen, cloak room and projection booth. The north wing will house the offices of the Mayor and City Clerk with a large vault for the latter, the meeting room for the City Council and the room for the Fire Department.

In a basement under the center portion will be the city Marshall's office and jail and the heating plant. On the attic floor will be finished quarters for boys' and girls' activities, the larger room being 25 by 53 feet. Approach to the jail and to the Fire Department quarters will be through the alley and service yard at a lower level in the rear of the building.

The City of Shawneetown has, at the present time, no facilities such as those provided by this new building.

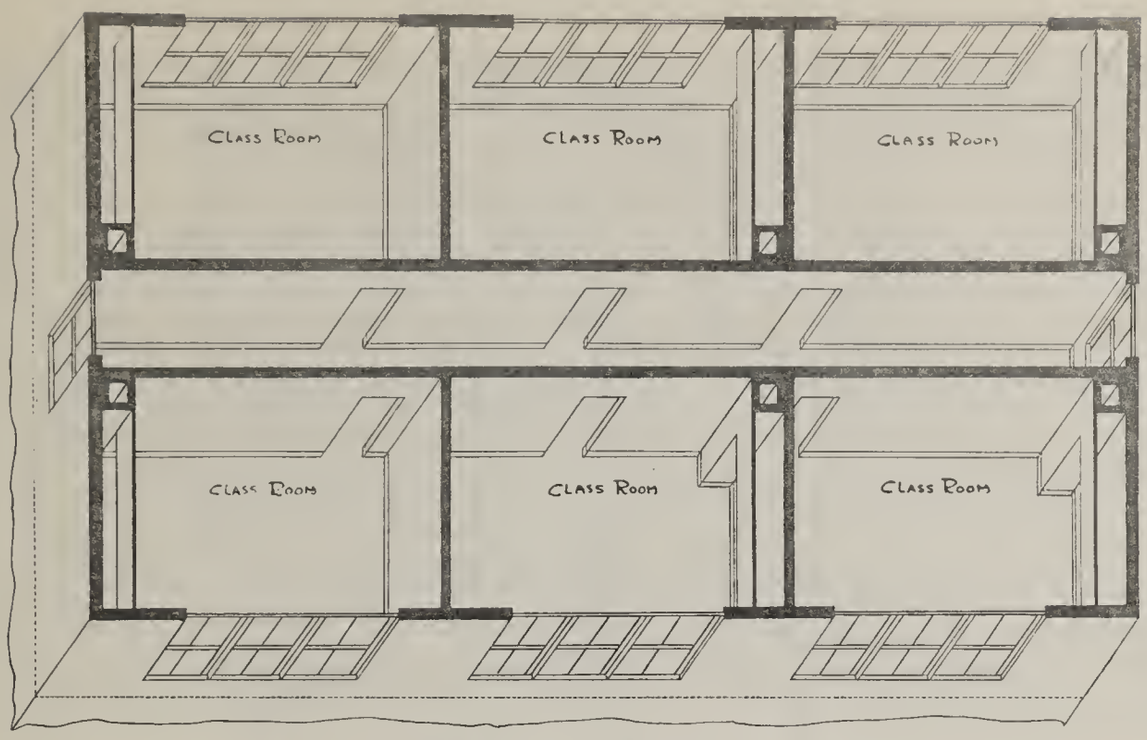


The present school house in Shawneetown is a large brick building rebuilt in 1908 after a bad fire the year before. The new school will be somewhat larger, and will be of fireproof construction throughout. Floor dimensions on each of the two stories will be 55 by 100 feet. Each of the nine class rooms will be 21 by 32 feet. On the first floor will be located the principal's office and office space for teachers, as well as rest rooms for teachers, girls and boys. The heating and ventilating plant will be located in a small basement.

The exterior of the building of modern colonial design, will be faced with native limestone or reclaimed and painted brick, and trimmed with cast stone. The design was made by Morris G. Holmes of Holmes and Flynn, well known school architects.

This new building is for white pupils. The WPA completed in 1936 a new grade school for colored pupils which will be moved to the new site and placed on new foundations, remodelled and improved. The basement, in particular, will be made more attractive and useful, with modern rest and play rooms.

The Historical Museum



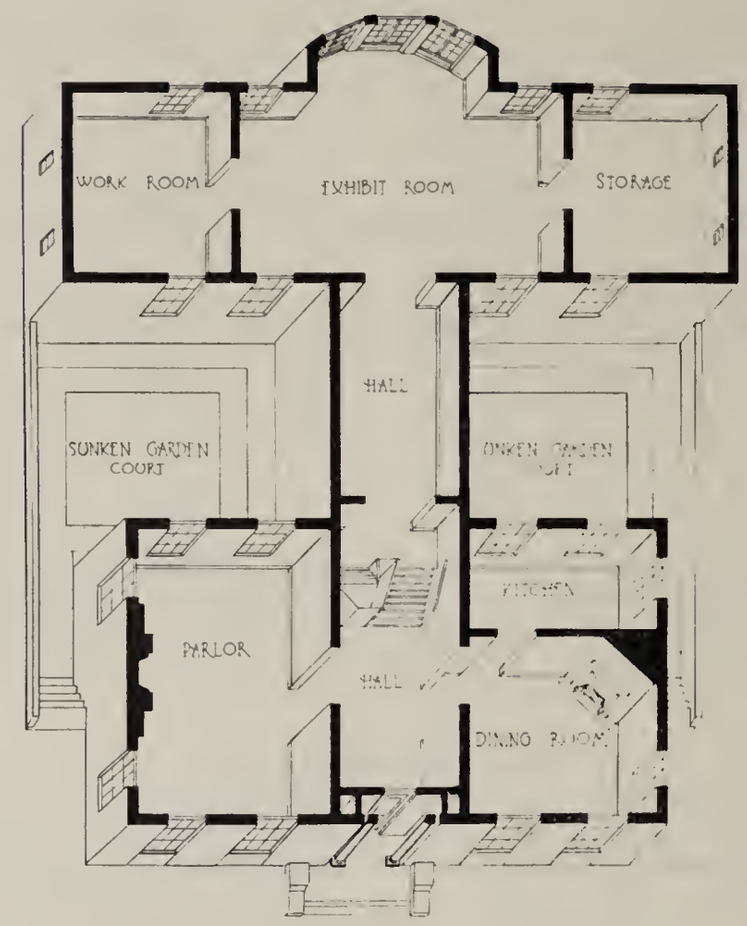
HISTORICAL MUSEUM

The battle flag that accompanied General Thomas Posey through the engagement at Stoney Point in the American Revolution followed him to Shawneetown and its tattered remains will find a final resting place secure against danger of fire and flood in the new museum. Here it will find itself in the company of the original type that floated down the Ohio River in 1818 on a flatboat with Henry Eddy and Peter Kimmel to start the second oldest newspaper in Illinois. The oldest paper, in Kaskaskia, lasted only four years, but the Shawneetown "Illinois Emigrant" continued for thirteen without a break and has persisted, with only a few lapses, until the present time. Ancient records of river imports for all of Southern Illinois, of exports of salt and farm products, of early banking, will find safe harbor here, with records of the old land office where 240,000 acres of land changed hands in a single year, and 3 million altogether.

Far more ancient are the Shawnee Indian relics, the best of which constitute a part of the collection in the Museum of the American Indian in New York City. A number and variety still remain in the vicinity of Shawneetown, however, and have been freely offered to the new Museum. Even more ancient are mastadon teeth and bones, of which many have been and some still are being found in this rich range. Animals no less than men were drawn to the salt licks near Shawneetown. An entire mastadon skeleton was found here.

The creation of two new state historical parks is visualized as an ultimate result of the relocation of Shawneetown. The state has agreed to buy the land comprising old Shawneetown and after the removal of non-historic and uninteresting buildings has been completed under this project, a second project will probably follow to restore the old site as an historical monument. Another project to restore the old salt works and adjacent Indian Village is already drawn. Mr. Charles V. Parker, of Harrisburg, owner of this historic land, has offered it to the State for this purpose and the result may easily prove to be the most fascinating outdoor

The Home of the Real Tom Sawyer

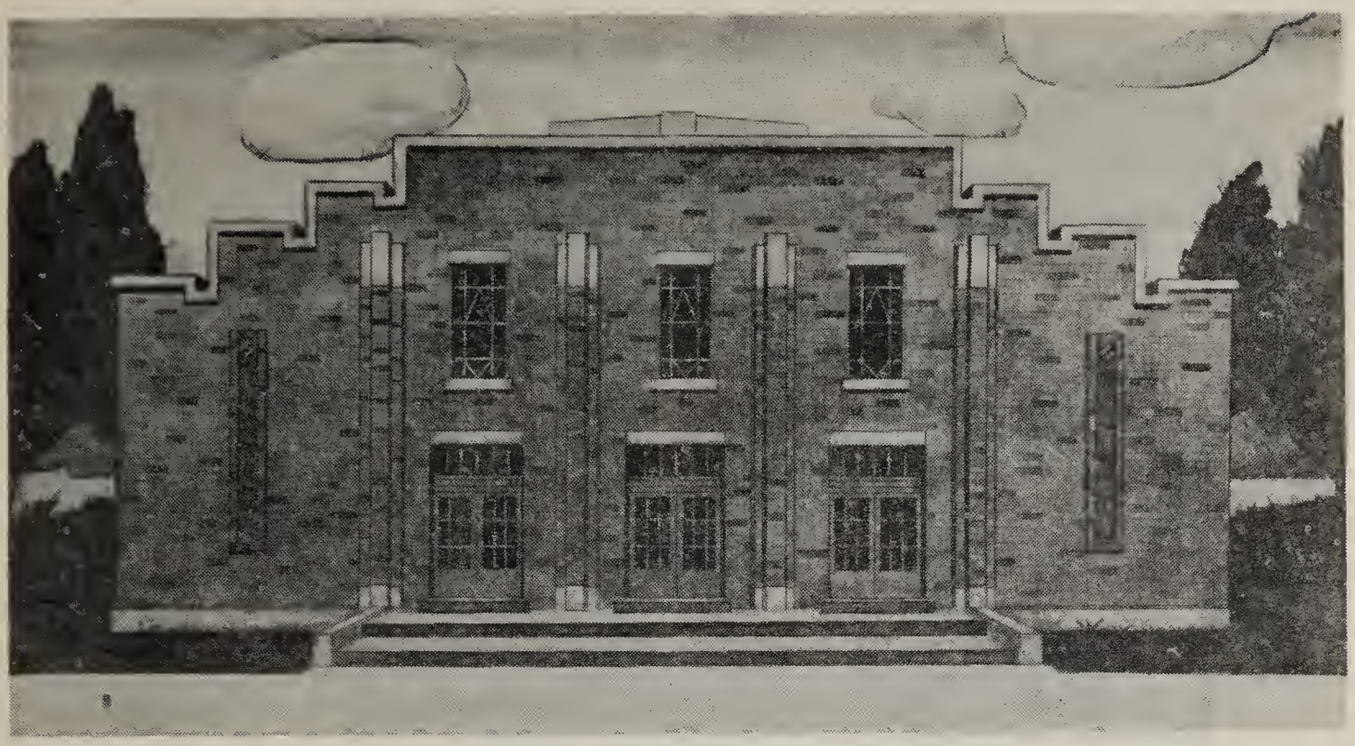


museum and park in the entire state, located a few miles from Shawneetown at the famous old "Nigger Well" on Route No. 1.

To house these superb exhibits, already assured, the WPA will build a fireproof museum building directly across the Mall from the City Building. As shown by the drawings reproduced on pages 20 and 21, the front part of the museum will reproduce one of the oldest and most simply effective architectural motifs of Shawneetown. In this part will be preserved examples of brick and wood and plaster and metal work taken from old buildings of the city, while the rear portion will house the museum display, work and storage rooms. The exterior of the building will be reclaimed material from the old city.

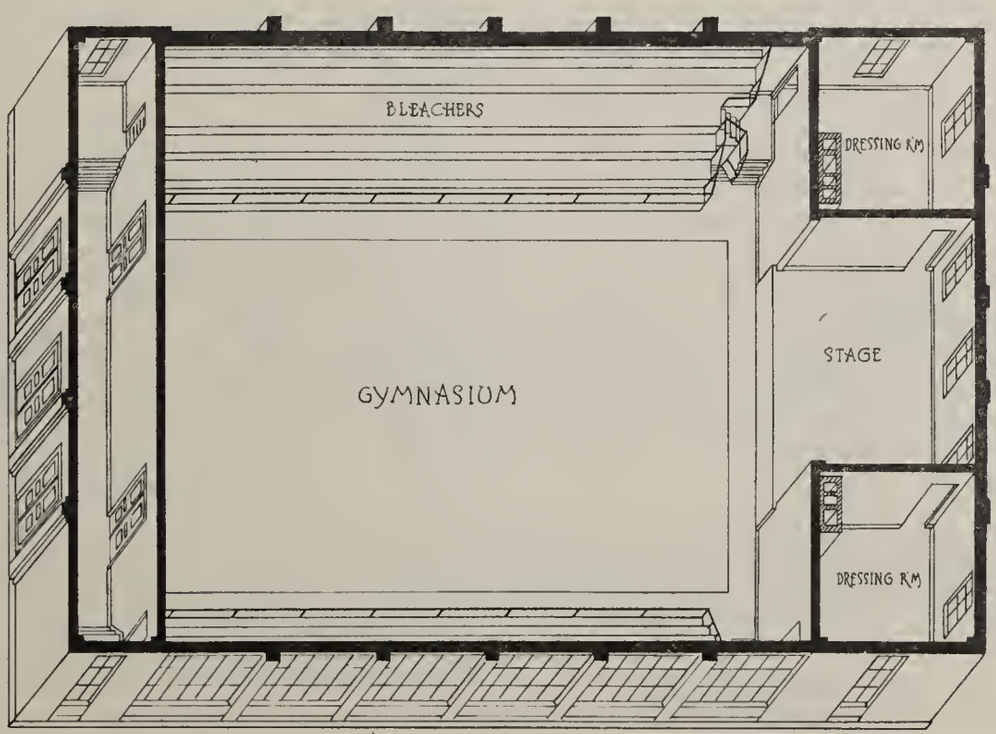
Commemorated in the museum, without a doubt, will be the little known fact that Mark Twain (Samuel Clemens) was an Ohio River pilot for many years and drew the source material and many of the characters for his most famous books directly from Shawneetown. "Tom Sawyer" was Thomas Sawyer Spivey, famous author, inventor and business executive, whose own and friends' adventures were recounted to Clemens and who formed a life long friendship with the author and assembled a remarkable collection of Mark Twain material. Far different was another case in which Mark Twain introduced another local resident by name and was forced by legal action to withdraw and reprint a first edition to avoid libel claims. Clemens spent months, even years, altogether, in and near Shawneetown, whose hills and caves and islands have a claim no less valid than Hannibal's own as a Mark Twain shrine.

Township High School Gymnasium

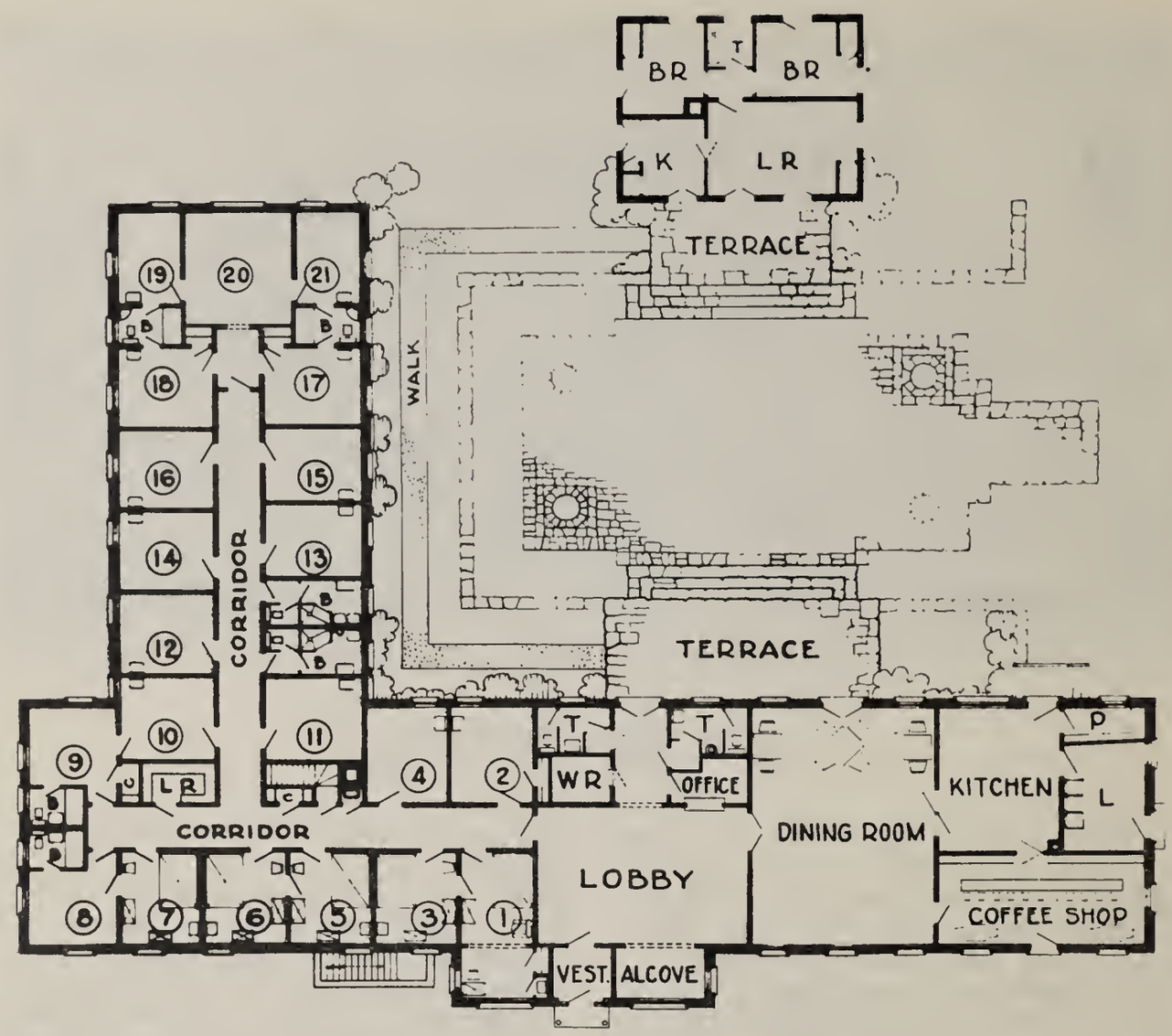


HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASIUM

This building, 75 by 115 feet in plan and 34 feet high, will replace the one lost by fire on Memorial Day, 1937, as the climax of the blow that decided Shawneetown upon moving. The exterior will be finished in brick to match the high school building, in accordance with plans by Thomas S. Thompson of Carbondale, the architect. A Lamella type of girderless roof will give an unobstructed floor and ceiling for games. A stage and dressing rooms, with showers, occupy one end of the building. The new building is located west of the high school adjacent to the outdoor athletic field and running track.



The Host House and the Craft House



HOST HOUSE

This one story building, 131 feet front on Shawnee Ave., 98 feet front on Roosevelt Road and 31 feet in depth, contains 20 bedrooms, lobby, dining room, coffee shop, kitchen and laundry, with heating plant in the basement. It is thoroughly modern and convenient and will serve as the nucleus of a future 50-room hotel. To the rear is laid out an attractive terraced garden in which refreshments may be served in the warmer seasons, while beyond the garden stands the

CRAFT HOUSE

a very compact and inexpensive four-room house, used as sales headquarters for the private production of workers on the Handicraft Training project. The walls of this building are of cinder block, without stucco or plaster, and represent the finish that will be used quite generally on rooms of the public buildings of Shawneetown. The finish around doors and windows, although lighter than would be used on public buildings, shows the same simple, inexpensive and yet effective detail. All the exposed lumber in this building was finished in the shop before erection, thereby saving time and expense later. The building was erected in four weeks time, ready for occupancy, at a cost of about $1500. It has no basement. The windows are of the French door type, designed to be thrown open to give a rapid change of air and consequent comfort at the end of a hot summer day.

Commercial and Industrial Buildings

The old commercial buildings of Shawneetown are mostly brick, two to three stories high and very deep. The spacious lofts and much of the first floor rear have long been unoccupied by business. Many of these buildings have a not inconsiderable architectural merit and a pleasing uniformity of style. They are too heavy, by far, to be moved for 3-1/2 miles.

It is expected that the rare opportunity of building the commercial section of the new town in a single harmonious architectural style will result in a dignity and attractiveness that few cities happily possess. The ancient German town of Mascoutah, in St. Clair County, is an example of a place where the buildings along the main street seem to belong together. Such towns are a very pleasant relief from the architectural battlefields presented by most American towns. While not denying each merchant his individual differentiation and sales appeal, the use of a consistent building plan will effect material savings with enhanced attractiveness. Store buildings will be one and two story in general. The new bank and the movie house will be at the widened south end of the Mall, between Shawnee and Marshall Avenues. Ample parking space will be provided in the commercial district for the Saturday night influx of traders.

INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS

Industry has largely deserted Shawneetown because of the heavy damage a flood causes to modern equipment. The ferry and the sand and gravel plant must remain by the river, of course. The grain elevator is the largest structure to be moved, well over 250 feet long and over 100 feet high. There are two lumber and material yards, a saw mill and a feed mill. That's about all. But it is confidently believed that newly relocated Shawneetown, with its families housed as well certainly as any city in America, will attract substantial and desirable new industries. About 60 acres of the new site of 320 acres have been allocated for industry.

Private Residences, New and Old

HOUSES

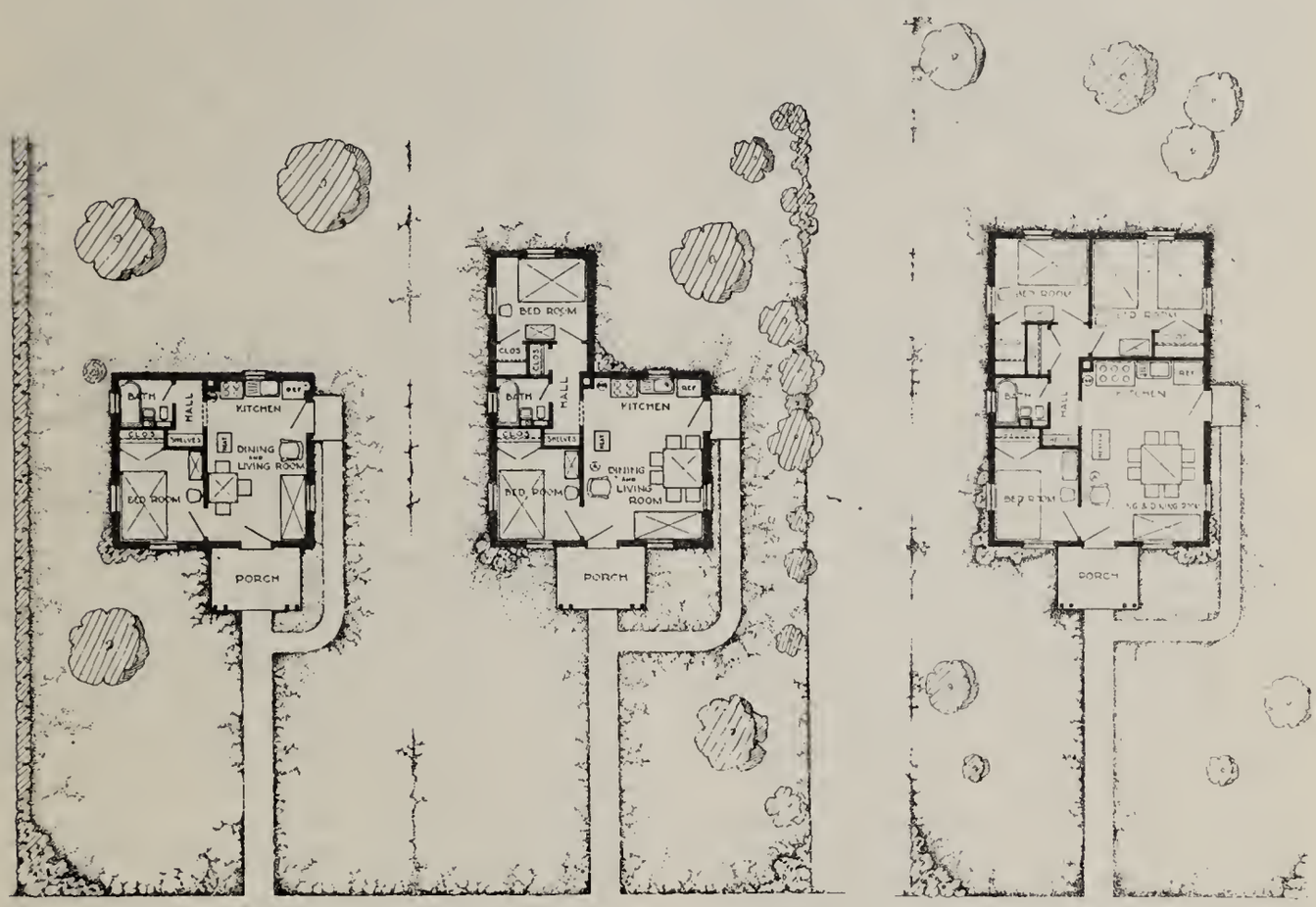
The Housing Authority of Gallatin County early announced as its sound, attainable program: "Every family in Shawneetown may obtain a house adequate for its needs at a price it can afford to pay!" The unique Shawneetown Relocation plan makes this possible. The original plan called for each family to contribute all material and non-labor costs with the WPA contributing all labor to the house building program. That plan was vetoed by the General Accounting Office which assisted in setting up the present, better plan. Under this plan the resources of all local building agencies, public and private, are pooled in the common fund of the Housing Authority. Gallatin County turns over the proceeds of its $20,000 bond issue to this fund, the city its $15,000, the school district its $25,000, and John Jones his $500 to $5000. The Housing Authority chips in its $350,000 borrowed of Disaster Loan Corporation. It's all a community pot. A court house, built by WPA without any expense to the county, offers security for the county bond issue and releases the actual cash - some $60,000 from all such agencies. Any profits arising from buying farm land, subdividing it into city lots, having it improved by WPA without expense to the sponsor and selling it to private owners, goes into the pot - some $250,000, at least. Any expense borne by WPA in clearing the old site of Shawneetown for use as a state park and paid for under family contracts goes to swell the Community Building Chest.

As a result the Housing Authority of Gallatin County will have ample funds available from non-federal sources to make it possible for each family to have its needs satisfied simply but adequately - every family will have tight roof and walls, a sufficient number of rooms, a

kitchen sink and indoor toilet - and will be obligated to pay as much per month as its earnings warrant. The rest is a relief donation from the Housing Authority's Community Building Chest, which is protected by legal restrictions against any quick turnovers or confiscations. It's a simple workable plan by which slums will be sloughed off completely when Shawneetown moves to the hill to start life over at the age of 140 years.

The details of contract drawings are numerous and time

TYPICAL HOUSE PLAN - THREE SIZES OF FAMILY



consuming. Present holdings will be sold to the State, which means a search of title, the preparation of an abstract, conveyance by the former owner to the Housing Authority and by the Housing Authority in blocks to the State, issuance of the state check in payment. A long course, especially in a section of the state where property is often passed quite informally. When a deed does pass it sometimes reads, quite honestly and unintentionally, on the wrong parcel of land!

New plans have to be drawn with complete specifications of the work to be done. Old houses have to be measured up. Big houses have to be chopped up, on paper, into little ones. Some old Shawneetown houses are destined to appear at the new site as three modern sized ones! Each owner has to decide on the basis of the estimated cost of moving his old house, or certain parts of it, and the estimated value of the salvage materials were the house to be wrecked, whether to move and remodel or to wreck and build. About fifty mortgages have to be adjusted. Taxes in arrears have to be cleared.

Even without these complications, the decision of a family's new house is a difficult matter requiring and always getting a highly deliberative con-

sideration. Gradually contracts are being drawn, approved by Disaster Loan Corporation and released to WPA for construction as the agent of the Housing Authority on this project. And WPA, acting in that capacity and spending sponsor's funds under a deposit agreement, has stocked up a material yard equal to about six of the size usually found in a small city, with 60 thousand cinder block, a million and a quarter feet of lumber of all kinds, a large supply of doors and wood and steel sash, plaster, cement, roofing, sheet metal, plumbing, electrical and heating supplies, rolled and strip roofing, wall board, drain tile and what else is necessary to build 80 to 100 houses. The central mixing plant is flanked by great piles of sand and gravel.

When the mud has subsided in the former corn field on Highway No. 13 and when sufficient family contracts have been released to insure effective and continuous use of the WPA moving equipment and shop and field facilities, the building machinery will start to grind out houses. Specially trained surveying crews will stake out a new house or foundation and set the batter boards. Another gang will appear and make the excavation. A third, with ready built forms will set up and concrete the foundations. A fourth will lay the sills and first floor. Others will build the side walls, the second floor, the roof, place the roofing and sheet metal, each doing its bit, each moving on from lot to lot as its work is completed.

Other specially trained gangs will appear in old Shawneetown, cut away excess ells and wings, dig trenches for heavy moving timbers, jack up the house, transfer it to trucks and off it goes up the highway to be deposited on new foundations already prepared for it. Then other gangs close in and rip out badly placed partitions, build on the additional rooms and modernize and repair the old structure. Still other gangs will be wrecking houses whose owners have decided not to move them, and salvaging the materials for re-use at the new site. These old materials are, on the average, better than any lumber that can be bought today, choice sticks that are all through shrinking and checking. Some of them are black walnut and gum and cypress, worthy of use in furniture for the public buildings.

This will be Shawneetown moving itself by means suitable to its own capacity and skill; moving itself at an expense that it can repay. Obviously, if highly skilled and more productive building labor were brought in to rebuild Shawneetown the result might be more finished, but who of the distressed families of the town could pay for high priced imported labor by working on some WPA road project at 31 cents an hour? The only way the town can move is by its own efforts, as set up in this community project. And the quality of the work will be passable. They will be good, sound, enduring attractive houses. In building their own homes, stores and public buildings, the workmen of Shawneetown will not become finished masons, carpenters, and so on, but they will acquire facility in using their hands and their heads, that will make them far better prospects for employment by industry. Each gang does but a fraction of the usual work of any trade. But that's exactly what a workman does in a modern factory. His foreman in the field and in the shop will be experienced and thorough. The final work will be exceptionally reasonable in cost, despite limitations on the skill of individual workers.

Nursery and Family Camp

THE NURSERY

An interesting special feature of the project is the nursery containing seven acres - 450 by 700 feet - of closely set trees and shrubs. Here they will be cultivated and trained, ready to move to each house lot when the house is completed. $25 has been allotted for the landscaping of each house and, with the bargain prices resulting from such wholesale quantities, a very effective planting of each lot should be possible for this small sum. In a few years new Shawneetown will be even more beautifully shaded and decorated than the old city. Very fine varieties of many shrubs have been secured at the tenth part of the price usually paid by home owners for very ordinary varieties. The opportunities presented in relocating an entire town are most extraordinary in many unexpected ways.

THE CAMP

The camp, now occupied by over 120 Shawneetown families forced out of their homes in the lower portions of the old city by the gathering of storm water within the levee when the river stage passes 37 feet, consists of 42 buildings, most of which are subdivided into living rooms (about 12 by 20 feet) and bed rooms (about 10 by 12 feet). The typical building is 20 by 60 feet and cost $206 to erect, using old camp material. It has electric lights, water is available at a hydrant at one end of each building and toilet and bathing facilities are available in sanitary units within the camp. Coal is used for fuel from the common supply provided by the Housing Authority, each family supplying its own stoves and other furniture. To supplement the WPA camp buildings fifty army tents have been received from Jefferson Barracks.

YARD AND SHOP FACILITIES

The supply and service functions for all kinds of project work are served by the yard and shop unit, comprising 16 buildings as follows:

The Production Shop, 85 x 180 ft., one story, with side wall and monitor lighting, heated from the detached boiler house, and equipped with

- 1-5 HP DeWalt Universal Saw
- 1-7-1/2 HP DeWalt Universal Saw
- 1-21-inch Circular Rip Saw
- 1-30-inch Band Saw
- 1-32x80-inch Double Belt Sander
- 1-Morticer and Router
- 1-Double Surface Planer, Matcher and Molder
- 1-Electric Drill
- 1-Power Drive
- 1-Paint Spraying Outfit
- 1-Air Compressor, with a full line of accessory and hand tools for wood and metal working and finishing.

The Garage and Repair Shop, 40 by 120 feet, for the storage and servicing and rebuilding of owned and rented equipment, and with gas and oil tanks and pumps in detached building. Several old wrecks from the camps have been consolidated into two trucks which operate steadily.

Purchased equipment consists of

- 2-Diamond T 2½-ton Dump Trucks
- 2-Dodge 1½-ton Stake Body Trucks
- 1-International 1-ton Pickup Truck
- 1-Chevrolet 1½-ton chassis on

Yard and Shop Facilities

which a water tank has been mounted.

1-40-HP Allis Chalmers Tractor and Bulldozer.

Rented equipment serviced here includes

1-32-inch 24-foot cut Trenching Machine.

1-95-HP Caterpillar Tractor, with 12 cu. yd. LeTourneau Scraper.

1-60-HP Caterpillar Tractor and Bulldozer.

1-12-foot Adams Blade.

1-Power Crane with Pile Driver, 3/4 cu. yd. Drag Line Bucket and 1/2 cu. yd. Clam Shell Bucket, together with a supply of steel sheet piling.

1-Well Drilling Outfit

The finish lumber sheds, two of which are 20 by 180 feet and one is 24 by 120 feet. Rough lumber is stored outdoors near these sheds. About a million and a quarter board feet are now in the yard.

The cement shed, 20 by 80 feet, and the central concrete mixing plant, with a 1 cu. yd. Ransome mixer, with loading skip and water measuring tank, flanked by large storage piles of sand and gravel. About 60,000 cinder block are stored nearby together with drain and sewer tile of vitrified clay.

The plaster shed and the miscellaneous storage sheds are each 20 by 40 feet.

The tool storage sheds are 20 by 60 and 16 x 20 feet respectively. The blacksmith shop is 16 by 20, and is equipped fully for welding and repair of machinery parts and for fabrication of metal work. The boiler house chimney was made here.

The stone cutting shed, 20 by 30 feet, serves as a shelter, open on one side, under which workmen cut native sandstone into facing for public buildings.

The yard office and small parts building is 20 by 80 feet with two wings in which delivery and accounting of WPA and sponsor's materials (amounting currently to about $85,000) is controlled.

In old Shawneetown is located another yard for the house moving equipment rented by WPA. A yard building, 20 by 60 feet, serves as an office and for storage of jacks, rollers, dollies, etc., while an enclosed yard cares for the major equipment including

2-3-ton trucks, capable of 70 HP tractive effort, one of which mounts a 10-ton motor driven winch.

1-30-HP Tractor and Bulldozer

1-70-HP Caterpillar Tractor

1-1-1/2-ton truck with platform bed

1 set of 3 moving trucks of 140-tons capacity each (heaviest ever made)

2 sets of 3 moving trucks of 60 tons capacity.

2 sets of 3 moving trucks of 50 tons capacity.

2 capstans, on wheels, 5/8 inch steel cable.

22,000 feet hardwood planking.

40,000 feet cribbing blocks.

10,000 feet sills and timbers.

5,000 feet hardwood shims and wedges.

250 crib jacks (with 36 turning bars).

24 bell jacks (with 12 turning bars).

6-15-ton ratchet jacks.

40 jack boxes.

45 hardwood rollers.

12 timber dollies.

Rope, chain, block, tackle, etc.

Other equipment purchased includes a 42 by 60-inch vertical cylinder blue printing machine and washer, 1200 feet of steel sidewalk forms, a machine for tapping water pipe and inserting corporation cocks under pressure and a supply of trench pumps and hose, etc.

Handicraft Training and Objectives

Professional and Service activities in the relocation of Shawneetown and in the community life of the new town will cover nearly all of the phases of this part of the Works Progress Administration program. The library, the trachoma clinic, the museum, and the recreation program will be provided with service or leadership; the Art Project will do sculpture, murals, and wood carvings for the public buildings; the Writers' Project will provide background material in the form of a Shawneetown Guide; and the craft program will be represented in the furnishings of the Host House.

During the construction period, the craft work has been stressed. A wood working shop was set up in November to develop the Host House furniture models, to make the Craft House furniture, and to build the equipment for the spinning and weaving unit. A skilled cabinet maker supervises the work of the men while the designs are prepared by an artist furnished by the Federal Art Project.

The selection of equipment for the shop was done with the plan that those machines should be used whose inter-relationship would give the greatest variety of functions. The tools in the shop are:

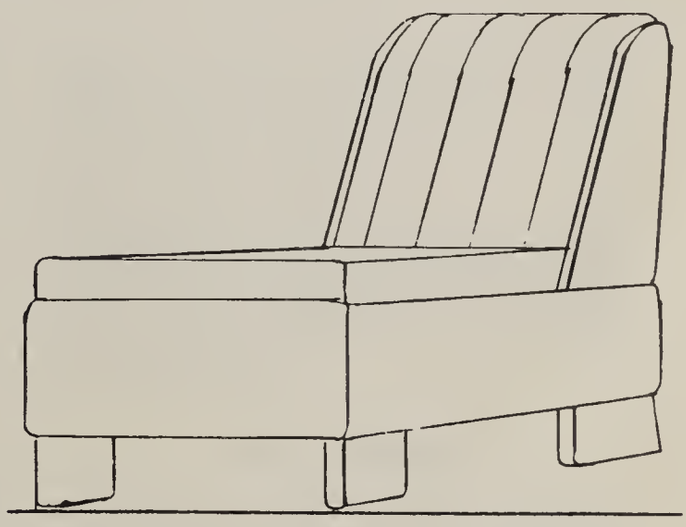
Delta Power Tools

10" Circular saw
12" Band saw
36" Lathe
1 Table shaper
1 Portable electric sander

There are six work benches with a complete set of hand tools for each bench. With this arrangement ten or twelve workers can handle the functions of the shop including the sanding and finishing departments.

The development of the Host House furniture models are of basic importance to the shop. The designs when accepted for use as Host House equipment will not only provide the shop with a long time production problem but it is also planned that these same pieces will serve as the basis for a furniture line which may develop into a self-sustaining unit.

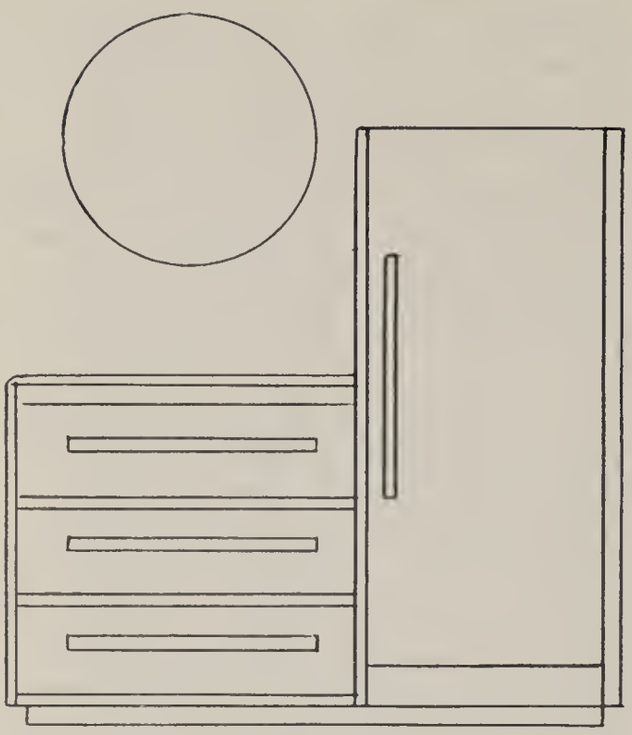
Furniture and fabrics not only for the Host House, but also for the Craft House have been designed by John Walley who has been loaned to the Shawneetown Craft development by the Federal Art Project. Illustrated are his designs for four basic pieces of furniture in the Host House: An occasional chair, a window seat bench, a dresser-desk, and a dresser-wardrobe combination for use in the bedrooms.



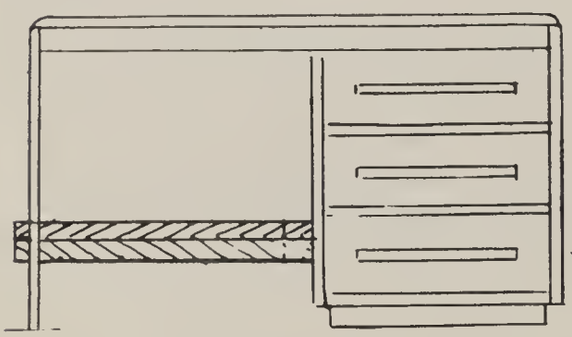
OCCASIONAL CHAIR

WINDOW SEAT - MAIN LOUNGE

Furnishing of Public Buildings



DRESSER WARDROBE



DRESSER DESK

In planning the furniture and textiles, the origin and historical interest of Shawneetown were carefully considered. Research showed that the majority of objects in early Shawneetown came from Virginia, through Kentucky, to Illinois. Care has been taken to preserve in the new designs the same feeling of these articles, while adopting them for use in a modern setting and by present day people. The skill of the craftsman, however, which was so evident in the early 19th century, has again been emphasized.

The recent high water situation which meant moving families to the new site made it necessary to use the space planned for the weaving unit as temporary residence quarters. The wood working shop, however, has constructed ready for use as soon as space is available, five four-treadle looms, one twelve inch and four forty-five inch. The small loom will be used for experimentation with design and color and for obtaining samples. Such a plan should eliminate the waste of warp at each cutting and should save time. In addition to the looms two spinning tables have been set up. The spindles are run by motors with a rheostat pedal to control their speed. The operation of this unit of the craft project will include the washing, carding, spinning and dying of material.

The first objective of the project is, of course, the preparation of materials for the Host House. These will include beds, dressers, tables, desks and chairs constructed by the wood working unit and upholstery material, blankets, coverlets, curtains, rugs and table and kitchen linen which can be made by the spinning and weaving unit.

Fundamentally, the most important reason for the existence of the craft shop is that it is providing training for the workers employed there - training that will enable them to make similar articles for their own homes; repair and construct furniture for other citizens moving into new homes; produce articles for sale which may provide full or supplementary income. As the workers become sufficiently proficient they will be allowed to work with their materials in the shop on their own time. Already some of the men are reaching this stage in the production of small wooden articles such as bowls, plates, and powder boxes.

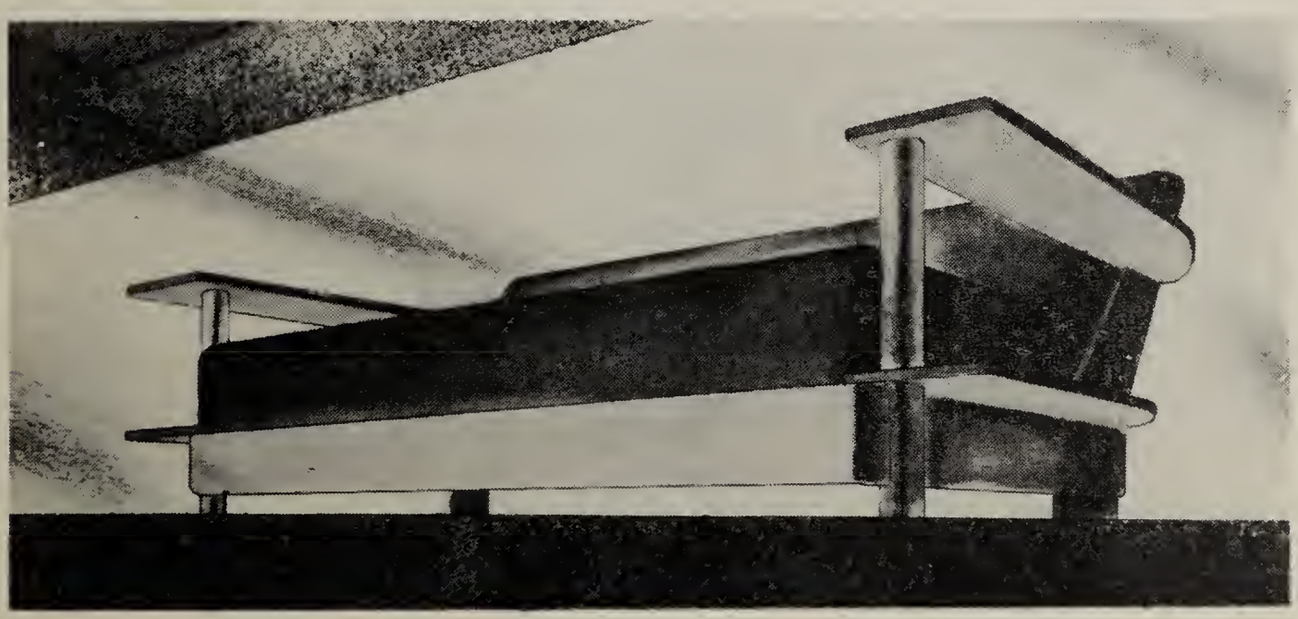
Exhibition of Handicraft Work

The Craft House is used to provide an exhibition place and a sales opportunity. Located directly across the court yard from the Host House, it is in an ideal position to attract the attention of the visitors to Shawneetown. The living room and one bedroom of the house are now used for display space. As the furniture is completed the entire house will be used. Articles from craft projects throughout Illinois and also work done by Gallatin County people are now on display for purchase or order.

In order to plan the financial responsibility for the Craft House the cooperation of the Shawneetown Women's Club was secured. The club agreed to sponsor the sales, to allow the treasurer to handle all funds, and to provide hostesses to be on duty at the Craft House. Works Progress Administration workers anywhere in Illinois may make articles on their own time to be sold at the Craft House. A commission of ten per cent is charged on all sales of materials made by persons outside of Gallatin County. This commission forms a revolving fund which is administered by the Women's Club. Any Gallatin County worker wishing to make articles on his own time may make application for a loan from the revolving fund for the purchase of his materials. There is no commission charge on the sale of anything made by Gallatin County residents.

The Craft House was opened Armistice Day weekend and was visited by over two hundred people. Since then, however, the winter weather has cut down the number of persons visiting the new town site. With the coming of spring, it is expected that there will be many more visitors and a much keener interest in participating among community people.

At the present time, the Federal Art Project is designing a distinctive Shawneetown label which can be used on wrapping paper and boxes. In every way it is hoped that the crafts of Shawneetown will be of the highest quality, of the finest workmanship, and sufficiently unusual to make them known as Shawneetown crafts.



Modern Pioneering

Difficult and exasperating as a project like this can be, it is also undeniably satisfying to move and rebuild an entire city and to afford its population release from unhealthy surroundings and for economic recovery and security. Another project just like Shawneetown is not likely in the near future. But there are many communities in which a partial reconstruction is needed and desired, to which the same basic principles are applicable.

Under normal conditions and working solely with the usual private construction agencies, Shawneetown could not hope to effect its own relocation. It lacked funds and the necessary security for the extension of credit. Over half of the families were receiving some form of public assistance and had no capital beyond the house in which they lived. This was the inevitable result of long economic frustration. Repeated floods had driven away most of the usual employment and earning opportunities.

In this situation a solution has been found at Shawneetown, by which the entire resources of the community have been effectively pooled and are adequate - but with no considerable margin - for the relocation effort. This solution involves two principal factors: First, the families that can finance their own removal are doing so under their contracts. They pay the usual sponsor's contribution for public improvements, for the removal of their houses to clear the old site for use as a state park. By using WPA funds for everything that WPA can do, substantially all of the sponsor's funds are made available for making the sort of improvements that WPA cannot make. Out of the community building chest created by the payments of those who are able to pay their way, the needs of other families, beyond their ability to pay, are met.

Second, these other families contribute all that they have to the community relocation enterprise, which is chiefly labor and rent payments. They actually build the houses of the new town. As far as possible they build their own house on their spare time and without pay. During regular working hours they work on Housing Authority payroll to build the houses of those who can pay. For this work they receive the customary wages - the low but nevertheless prevailing wages for construction work in Shawneetown - which enables them to supply their own families with food and clothing and to pay rent (or to pay on contracts when their own houses are completed). Obviously they could not pay outsiders, with greater skill in construction, and higher wages, to come in and build their houses for them. Everybody is stretching their resources to the utmost. Every penny that possibly can be held must be retained in the community - wages go to local merchants, profits go to pay for the merchant's housing contract and so on around a closed community circle. On any other basis no relocation is possible.

Other communities in similar financial straits, which often have difficulty in sponsoring WPA projects, may find it possible through the Shawneetown plan to acquire improvements not otherwise possible. With the growing realization that concentration of industry in great cities offers a fatal target for enemy bombing planes, the rehabilitation at this time of our underprivileged communities will make them eligible for the location of industry as required by national defense and security. Shawneetown is engaged in converting itself from a city that absolutely excluded industry by its situation, into a city that is most favorable for such relocation of industry. In time of peace, no less than war, the superior living conditions, the better health and sanitation, the improved outlook on life resulting from this project will pay dividends on the nation's aid extended through Works Progress Administration.

Take a Tip from
Shawneetown

Move out of the Zone of Accidents -
When your way of doing things
gets you into trouble -

Change Your Ways!